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Japan

Subcabinet-Level Talks With U.S. Planned

OW3012082193 Tokyo KYODO in English 0747 GMT
30 Dec 93

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 30 KYODO—Japan and the United States will hold a series of sub cabinet-level talks for a new framework for bilateral trade in January ahead of a Japan-U.S. summit in February. The negotiations, slated in Washington and Tokyo, will cover such major areas as government procurement, insurance, automobile trade and a wholesale review of existing trade accords, Japanese Government officials said.

The officials said Washington has shown signs of softening its demands for numerical targets for Japanese imports and the foreign market share in Japan. However, they said both sides still remain far apart on major pending issues, predicting rough going in the upcoming negotiations.

The two countries will try to wind up the negotiations before the February 11 summit between Japanese Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa and U.S. President Bill Clinton.

Japan's reaction to a series of remarks by senior U.S. officials indicating the softening of Washington's approach toward major issues has been divided, the officials said. One side welcomed them as a sign of compromise while the other warned there was no change in the U.S. basic stance, they said.

The negotiations will begin in Washington with two sessions on government procurement of telecommunications equipment on January 4 and 5, followed with talks on medical equipment trade on January 6 and 7.

The stage will move to Tokyo for three days of talks on automobile trade on January 12-14.

U.S., DPRK To 'Top' 1994 Diplomatic Agenda

OW3012081693 Tokyo KYODO in English 0742 GMT
30 Dec 93

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 30 KYODO—Eradicating friction in Japan-U.S. relations and ensuring Japan's safety in the face of the suspected North Korean nuclear arms program will top Japan's diplomatic agenda in 1994, the Foreign Ministry said Thursday [30 December]. Issuing an analytical report of the review and forecasts on the international situation, ministry officials said the government will make utmost efforts to bring Japan-U.S. economic framework negotiations to a successful conclusion.

Future developments in ties between the two countries will be swayed by the outcome of a summit talk on the framework arrangement between Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa and U.S. President Bill Clinton, slated for February 11, the officials said. If Pyongyang should

accept U.S. demands to allow unimpeded inspection of all suspected nuclear arms development facilities, Japan would agree to resume working-level talks with North Korea in Beijing to normalize diplomatic ties, they said.

However, if North Korea-U.S. talks broke down over the inspection demand for the North Korean nuclear facilities, Japan would slap economic sanctions on Pyongyang in conjunction with the United States and South Korea, ministry sources said.

Foreign Minister Tsutomu Hata vowed Tuesday to monitor the reported outflows of Japanese high technology and an estimated 200 billion yen in annual remittances from Korean residents in Japan to Pyongyang.

Hosokawa and Clinton held the summit in November by taking the opportunity of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) conference on top of their summit in September in New York where the two leaders attended the U.N. General Assembly.

"The past two summits were the mere forums for cheering up each other. The upcoming summit will see tough debate between the two leaders," a Foreign Ministry source, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said.

Japan wants to hammer out a mutually-acceptable agreement on such priority trade fields as autos, auto parts, insurance business and government procurements, he said.

The report also predicted the political situation in Russia will undergo a further confusion following the emergence of political influence of the ultranationalist Liberal Democratic Party led by Vladimir Zhirinovskiy.

Japan will face a stalemate in talks with Russia over its demand to revive its sovereignty over four Russian-held islands off Hokkaido, it added. The islands were seized by the Soviet Red Army at the end of World War II.

Diaries on Germ Warfare in China Discovered

OW3012104393 Tokyo KYODO in English 1000 GMT
30 Dec 93

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 30 KYODO—Recently discovered diaries from ranking members of the Imperial Japanese Army reveal details about how Japan used germ warfare in China during World War II, a citizens group said Thursday [30 December].

The documents show that the army used aircraft to drop pest-infected fleas over cities such as Changde in Hunan Province, according to the data center on Japan's war responsibility. They also show that, depending on the target area, the unit infected mice and fleas with different epidemics like pest or cholera and that the diseases were also spread through contaminated wells and food, the center said in a December bulletin.

The four diaries were evaluated by Yoshiaki Yoshimi, professor at Chuo University, and Toshiya Iko, a lecturer at Rikkyo (St. Paul's) University.

The scholars found the documents, authored by members of the General Staff Headquarters' Strategy Section and the chief of the Army Ministry's Medical Affairs Section, at the archives of the National Institute for Defense Studies in June.

An entry on November 25, 1941, reads as follows: "Poisoning prevalent near Changde (the Imperial Japanese Army spread it by an aircraft in the area around Changde), those who came into contact with it had awful poisoning." The entry seems to correspond with Chinese testimony about the dropping of pest-infected fleas over Changde, Yoshimi said.

A row of germ warfare activities was recorded in another diary on August 28, 1942: "Released mice (wild mice) carrying infected fleas in Guangxin after giving them injections."

"Released mice and fleas infected with dried bacillus of P into rice with the aim to infect human beings," the diary said in part. "In Jiangshan C put directly into wells, applied to food, and injected into fruits."

Judging from the context of the document, the letters P and C refer to the pest and cholera bacilli, Yoshimi said.

SDF Makes Rules of Engagement for Exercises

OW3012111393 Tokyo KYODO in English 1005 GMT 30 Dec 93

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 30 KYODO—Japan's Self-Defense Forces (SDF) has established rules of engagement (ROE) for regulating the use of force in its largest-ever joint exercise this autumn, defense sources said Thursday [30 December].

The military took the lead in establishing the ROE, which are usually regarded as the basis for determining civilian control over the military. In most other countries military authorities set ROE under the direction of their governments.

It was the first time ROE have been employed in SDF military maneuvers, which were held in September and October with the Ground, Maritime and Air Self-Defense Forces taking part on the premise that Japan had been attacked.

In employing such rules, the SDF leadership is likely to spark a controversy in connection with the Constitution, the sources said. The Constitution renounces the use of military force as a means of settling international disputes.

The Defense Agency said, however, it set the ROE "just for study purposes" and declined to disclose details. Until this autumn, the agency had only established ROE for specific cases, such as measures to be taken against

invasion of Japanese airspace and use of firearms by SDF personnel participating in United Nations peace-keeping operations in Cambodia.

The U.S. Defense Department defines ROE as directives issued by competent military authorities specifying the circumstances and limitations under which forces will initiate or continue combat engagement with other forces.

ROE, which have already been established in major Western nations, serve to keep strict civilian control over the military and use of military force.

Generally, ROE help a government to judge situations and take countermeasures when facing military crises or disputes.

They also specify in detail the purpose and policy of military operations, ways of commanding the military, and how to distinguish enemies and neutrals from allies.

According to agency sources, Japan's military drills this autumn were based on the scenario that the country had been invaded by a large enemy force.

The sources said the agency's Joint Staff Council, which planned the exercise, compiled the ROE for counterattack operations.

Hosokawa Said Not Responsible if Reform Fails

OW3012131693 Tokyo KYODO in English 1251 GMT 30 Dec 93

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 30 KYODO—Komeito Chairman Koshiro Ishida said Thursday [30 December] that Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa will not have to call a snap election or dissolve his cabinet if the Diet fails to pass the government's four political and electoral reform bills.

The failure of the reform package to pass the House of Councillors "would not lead to a dissolution of the House of Representatives or resignation of the Cabinet en masse," Ishida told a Japan Broadcasting Corp. (NHK) news program.

The Constitution stipulates a general election for the lower chamber within 40 days of its dissolution.

"Both the ruling coalition and opposition camp should bear responsibility for passing the bills and Prime Minister Hosokawa alone should not be held responsible" if they fail to clear the Diet, he said.

Ishida rapped Social Democratic Party Chairman Tomichi Murayama's proposal to pass only the antigraft bill among the four bills for threatening to nullify the ruling coalition's efforts to revamp Japan's electoral system.

Murayama has argued the Diet should legislate measures to stem the flow of shady donations into politicians' coffers now that the electoral bill has drawn such sharp criticism from the Liberal Democratic Party, bringing Diet deliberations to a standstill.

Meanwhile, Ishida said the party opposes a growing feeling within the coalition to balance an income tax cut with a simultaneous raise in the rate of consumption tax from the current 3 percent. A consumption tax raise would offset any stimulatory effects stemming from income tax cuts, he said.

However, Ishida did not rule out a future raise, saying the government "must secure public understanding" about how to raise additional state revenues to offset increasing fiscal outlays for Japan's rapidly aging society. Ishida argued that the size of a proposed income tax cut should eclipse 5 trillion yen, while stating that a proposed cut of around 10 trillion yen will not materialize due to opposition from the Finance Ministry.

Ishida said the party should try to secure "real transparency in relations" between Komeito and Soka Gakkai, a lay Buddhist organization that sponsors the party. He pledged to disclose the contents of "opinion exchanges on pending policy issues" between Komeito and Soka Gakkai to dispel public concern about whether Komeito's presence in the government might not undermine the constitutional ban on state patronage of a certain religious sect.

"Through such forums and news conferences, we will inform the public of the contents of opinion exchanges on pending policy issues to be held once or twice monthly," Ishida said. Ishida defended the tie between Komeito and Soka Gakkai as "a relationship between a political party and its support organization."

Analysts: Hosokawa Walking Political Tightrope
*OW3012004393 Tokyo KYODO in English 2336 GMT
29 Dec 93*

[By Takehiko Kajita]

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 30 KYODO—Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa, already under fire for his failure to revitalize the Japanese economy, has to walk a tightrope in 1994 as he grapples with a number of formidable tasks, political analysts say. They say the fate of the Hosokawa administration rests with political reform, on which the premier has staked his political future, and with economic management.

"So far, the Hosokawa government has made almost no noticeable achievement," said Fukuji Taguchi, a political science professor at Nagoya University. He said chances are about even that the Hosokawa administration can realize passage of long-delayed reforms aimed at weeding out rampant political corruption in Japan.

If necessary reform legislation fails to get into the law books in the current extraordinary Diet session, which closes January 29, Hosokawa will face mounting public criticism, Taguchi predicted.

Political reform, featuring changes to the system for House of Representatives elections and tighter control

on political funding, has dominated Diet debate in the last five years because of an array of money scandals.

Hosokawa's seven-party coalition came to power in August, ending the 38-year monopoly on power by the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP). Failure to act on reform measures led to the downfall of the last two LDP governments.

On the economic front, Takashi Inoguchi, a professor of political science and international relations at the University of Tokyo, pointed to the "framework" trade talks between Japan and the United States, the formulation of the fiscal 1994 national budget and the tax system reform as areas of concern for the Hosokawa cabinet.

Possible division over the economic issues as well as over political reform among the coalition will eventually enhance moves for a reconfiguration of political parties, he said.

"I think a general election will be called sometime next year," Inoguchi predicted. He said a big center-right party that can secure a continuous grip on power will be created through some general elections over the next 10 years as the public seeks political stability, continuity and capability.

Tadashi Iyasu, a political sociology professor at Ryukoku University in Kyoto, said he believes Hosokawa can manage to remain in power for a while longer because people do not necessarily want the LDP to return to power. "I don't think the LDP can live up to public expectations if it regains power," he said.

Iyasu forecast that a reorganization of political parties will take place after the power bases of LDP legislators gradually erode as a result of the Hosokawa government's continued hold on power.

Nagoya University's Taguchi shared Iyasu's view, saying the public has the impression that the LDP has obstructed Diet discussion on political reform. He also said all the parties, save for the Japanese Communist Party, will have little hope of increasing their strength in the Diet in the next general election, adding a possible political realignment will reserve no room for social democratic forces.

Likening Hosokawa's political management to surfing, Inoguchi pointed out the premier has handled key policy challenges "extemporaneously" but enjoyed "strange" support from the public. He said voters have pinned their hopes on Hosokawa's coalition only because there is "no alternative."

Ozawa's Ex-Aide Implicated in Scandal

*OW3012111293 Tokyo KYODO in English 1042 GMT
30 Dec 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 30 KYODO—A former secretary of Shinseito co-leader Ichiro Ozawa received 4.5 million yen from a retailer of special bolts for construction

projects in 1988 after he persuaded Kajima Corp. and Taisei Corp. to place orders for the bolts with the retailer and a trading house associated with the retailer, informed sources said Thursday [30 December]. The office of Ozawa, a chief strategist for the coalition government, acknowledged that the former secretary got the money, but dismissed the deal as "action taken by the former secretary based on his own responsibility."

The 46-year-old, ex-secretary also admitted in an interview with KYODO NEWS SERVICE he "introduced an acquaintance" who could influence Kajima Corp. to an employee in the Kobe-based trading house. "I do not remember how I disposed of the 4.5 million yen I accepted," he said.

The deal revolved around a 21.6 billion yen public works project to install oil storage tanks in a huge underground rock bed of the oil stockpile base in Kuji in Ozawa's native Iwate Prefecture.

The rock bolts were inserted to strengthen the rock bed to sustain heavy oil storage tanks. The value of the rock bolt contract amounted to 120 million yen.

The project was awarded in November 1988 to a joint venture led by Kajima, a construction giant, whose executives were indicted in November on charges of bribing former Ibaraki Gov. Fujio Takeuchi and Sendai Mayor Toru Ishii.

The secretary was approached by the Kobe-based trading house in the spring of 1988. The company allegedly asked him to persuade Kajima to place orders for the bolts with the trading house and the Tokyo-based retailer, the sources said.

The secretary, who was then helping Ozawa's election campaign, introduced his acquaintance to influence Kajima's selection of suppliers of construction material, they said.

After Kajima complied with a request to place the bolt order with the retailer and trading house, the retailer paid 4.5 million yen in December 1988 to reward the former secretary for his role in the deal, the sources said.

About a month later, 60,000 rock bolts were delivered to the joint venture by the retailer, the trading house and two other firms in Kuji and Sendai, they said.

Meanwhile, the secretary also persuaded Taisei to place orders for the rock bolts for use in a highway tunnel project in Otsuchi, Iwate Prefecture, with the trading house and the retailer, after he received requests from the two firms to exert his influence, they said.

Taisei, who had earlier won 50 percent of the 2.46 billion yen project to build a 932-meter highway tunnel, used the bolts to strengthen the tunnel structure.

Industry sources said the secretary's deals reflect the construction industry's practices, in which intermediating wholesalers benefit politicians by handing over parts of commissions they earned in order to secure the politicians' influence.

Commissions are tacked onto wholesale prices of construction material, each time it goes through the hands of intermediating wholesalers, even when such wholesalers are involved only on paper,—rather than in the actual transfer of the material, they said.

These wholesalers, in return, hand over unreported political donations to the politicians, whose influence allows them to profit from the inflated value of the material for public works projects.

Upper House Members on Consumption Tax Hike *OW3012061993 Tokyo KYODO in English 0540 GMT* *30 Dec 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 30 KYODO—Fifty-eight percent of House of Councilors members polled said they are opposed to a hike in the consumption tax rate, a KYODO NEWS SERVICE survey showed Thursday.

The survey was conducted for a week from December 21 on all 252 upper house members, of whom 210 or 83.3 percent answered. It showed that 122 members said the government should not raise the consumption tax rate now standing at 3 percent.

But 47 members or 22 percent accept the raising in the consumption tax, while 41 members or 20 percent answered they cannot say either yes or no on the issue at the moment.

To pull the nation's economy out of the worst postwar recession, the government is considering an income tax cut of over 5 trillion yen. It also is considering whether or not the consumption tax should be raised to offset the anticipated fall in tax revenues, an issue that has been hotly debated.

Among 116 respondents belonging to the ruling coalition parties, 79 lawmakers or nearly 80 percent said they oppose a possible hike.

Among 63 respondents from the Social Democratic Party (SDP), the largest force in the seven-party coalition, 55 oppose the raising, while only four support the hike.

Among 22 respondents from Komeito, a coalition partner, 10 object to the idea, while three are in favor.

Twenty-five lawmakers out of 75 respondents from the largest opposition Liberal Democratic Party oppose the hike, while 29 are in favor and 21 are uncommitted.

All 11 Japanese Communist Party members oppose the idea.

Think Tank Blames Government for Inflation

OW3012082693 Tokyo KYODO in English 0755 GMT
30 Dec 93

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 30 KYODO—The Tokyo metropolitan government created the frenzied asset inflation of the late 1980s in the nation's capital by keeping property taxes low, according to a report issued by a private think tank. The Research Institute of Construction and Economy said Tokyo's tax policy that tried to ease the burden on landholders as land prices ballooned led to an unfair tax burden on people who were not property owners.

According to the report, the city's taxation on real estate gained only 1.54 times from 1985 until 1991, while the residence tax—a kind of local income tax—jumped 1.85 times. The institute said Tokyo's tax policy made it more attractive to continue possessing real estate, making the land price spiral even worse.

With respect to a land value tax introduced to restrain soaring land prices, the institute said the system should be reviewed after first doing something to improve the situation regarding the tax on all fixed assets.

The business sector has been calling for scrapping the land value tax, but the institute said the issue needs to be debated on a broad scale and not simply because the burden is heavy on businesses.

Mongolia

Prime Minister Praises New Russian Constitution

LD2012151993 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in
Russian 0900 GMT 20 Dec 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Kim Boldokhonov]

[Text] Ulaanbaator, 20 Dec—Russia's referendum on the draft constitution and its first democratic elections in over 70 years to the supreme body of state power involving parties and movements of different political views are events of great importance, Mongolian Prime Minister Puntsagiyn Jasray has stressed. He was addressing workers in the town of Erdenet on the 15th anniversary of the joint Russian-Mongolian Erdenet mining and enrichment combine.

Mongolia has supported the processes of democratization and renewal in Russia since their inception, he said. We welcome the approval by the Russian people of a basic law that guarantees human rights and freedoms and creates conditions for the formation of a multiparty parliament. We are confident that the new Constitution and the future parliament will help to move the country further along the path of democracy and renewal and to consolidate Russian statehood, the head of the Mongolian Government noted.

Foreign Minister on Foreign Policy Priorities

LD2912173593 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in
Russian 1501 GMT 29 Dec 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Kim Boldokhonov]

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 29 Dec—Friendly relations and broad cooperation with our two neighbors—Russia and China—remain the priorities in Mongolia's foreign policy in the coming year. This was stated in an interview to the national news agency MONTSAME by Mongolian Foreign Minister Tserenpiliyn Gombosuren.

Describing the most important events of the outgoing year in his country's foreign relations, he named the signing of the friendship and cooperation treaty between Mongolia and Russia by the presidents of the two states in 1993. Its coming into force inaugurated a qualitatively new cooperation in all spheres of public life, based on full equality of rights and mutual benefit, the minister said.

In 1993 Mongolia attached great significance to the strengthening of relations with countries giving it aid. Taking part in the third meeting of donor-countries in Tokyo this year were the representatives of 23 states and six international organizations.

In the opinion of Ts. Gombosuren, the support of the United States and a number of other nuclear powers is of major significance for Mongolia's foreign relations. The minister stressed the successful development of Mongolian-Japanese relations. The recent visit to the "Land of the Rising Sun" by the Mongolian prime minister will serve to give these relations an intensive and comprehensive nature, he said.

The consolidation of the achieved level of cooperation and the expansion and deepening of relations with all partner countries is our main task in the new year, Ts. Gombosuren stressed.

Presidential Budget Approved as Separate Article

LD2212115993 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in
Russian 1016 GMT 22 Dec 93

[Text] Ulaanbaatar [no date as received]—The budget for the country's president, amounting to 60.5 million tugriks (about \$150,000), has been approved for the first time as a separate article in the Mongolian state budget for 1994. This sum includes both expenditures for the president himself and his office. The salary of the head of state, including various additional payments, has been set at 19,000 tugriks (\$47.5) a month.

North Korea

Ministry Spokesman on 29 Dec DPRK-U.S. Talks

*SK3012104193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1025
GMT 30 Dec 93*

["DPRK Foreign Ministry Spokesman on Results of DPRK-USA Contact"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, December 30 (KCNA)—A spokesman for the DPRK Foreign Ministry, in answer to a question put by a KCNA reporter today as regards the results of several rounds of DPRK-U.S. contacts held in New York recently, said:

A DPRK-U.S. contact was held in New York on December 29 over the nuclear issue. This was the 18th contact since the second-stage DPRK-U.S. talks.

At the contact the U.S. side officially manifested its readiness to discontinue 'Team Spirit' joint military exercises as part of the measure to remove the nuclear threat to us, and we agreed to allow inspection needed entirely for guaranteeing the continuity of safeguards, not routine and ad hoc inspections from the legal requirements pursuant to the treaty on the already declared nuclear facilities, in keeping with our special position in which we have temporarily suspended the effectuation of our withdrawal from the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

The sides agreed to have the third-stage talks on the basis of this progress and solve in a package deal the issues for a fundamental solution of the nuclear problem such as the termination of the U.S. nuclear threat and its hostile policy against the DPRK, the improvement of the DPRK-U.S. relations and the resumption of routine and ad hoc inspections of the DPRK's nuclear facilities by the International Atomic Energy Agency.

Through the latest contact, the sides removed a series stumbling blocks which had brought the DPRK-U.S. talks to a deadlock and made a breakthrough for the progress of the talks by displaying the spirit of mutual understanding and cooperation.

It is fortunate that the DPRK-U.S. talks for the solution of the nuclear issue have been brought back to its track.

We positively appreciate that the U.S. side, though belatedly, accepted the DPRK-proposed formula of package solution and agreed to the simultaneous action of both sides in this direction.

The course of the contacts between the DPRK and the United States since the second-stage talks clearly shows that the problem cannot be solved by means of resorting to delaying tactics or putting pressure with unreasonable preconditions.

A sincere will for dialogue and a reasonable attitude toward the talks are the key to the solution of the nuclear problem.

We cannot but pay due attention to the fact that some quarters, timing to coincide with a new progress at the DPRK-U.S. talks these days, are spreading the rumour that we decided to accept the "overall inspection" for fear of "sanctions" or "pressure". This is obviously motivated by the attempt to put a brake on the DPRK-U.S. talks, not wanting their progress.

If some quarters try to lay artificial hurdles in the way of the DPRK-U.S. talks, pursuing another aim again, we will face a situation in which we will be compelled to seek another option conforming to it.

We will make continued efforts for a complete solution of the nuclear issue through the DPRK-U.S. talks.

[Pyongyang Korean Central Television Network in Korean at 1140 GMT on 30 December carries a three-minute report on an answer given by a DPRK Foreign Ministry spokesman to a KCNA reporter's question on the results of the 29 December DPRK-U.S. talks. This version has been compared with and found to be identical to the above KCNA version. The TV version allows for supplying the vernacular for the following passage: Third paragraph, only sentence, make read: ...of safeguards, not routine and ad hoc inspections (chonggimit pijonggi sachal) from the legal...]

South Berated for Importing 'Toxic' Wheat

*SK3012064193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0448
GMT 30 Dec 93*

["Traitor Brings Disaster"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, December 30 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today comments on the recent decision of the South Korean puppets to take over U.S.-produced wheat containing 132 times as much toxic agricultural chemical as the tolerable limit.

The paper denounces this as another unpardonable treacherous crime which opened the way for the unrestricted inflow of toxic "waste" rejected in other countries.

The news analyst says:

The puppets claim that they took this step because of somebody's "loss." This step, however, represents the interests of foreign monopolies.

In addition to the rice market opening cutting the lifeline of farmers and destroying agriculture, the traitorous clique of Kim Yong-sam allowed the import of toxic agricultural products threatening the very existence of the people. This is the worst crime ever in history. The Kim Yong-sam puppet clique is a gang of rare traitors and heinous murderers who sell the interests of the country and the nation and harm the lives of people without hesitation for personal wealth and glory and maintenance of power.

With such traitors and murderers remaining in power, the South Korean people cannot be in peace even a moment nor can they escape disasters.

The South Korean people will never pardon the criminal acts of the traitors but bring down a sledge hammer on their heads.

'Chemical War Preparations' in South Denounced

*SK2912084193 Pyongyang Korean Central
Broadcasting Network in Korean 1150 GMT 28 Dec 93*

[Commentary by Chong Pong-kil: "The Criminal Act of Even Inflicting the Disaster of Chemical Weapons"]

[Text] According to the 19 December issue of the Nigerian paper SUNDAY CHAMPION, the United States and South Korean puppets are accelerating the chemical war preparations. The paper exposed that the United States used germ and chemical weapons in the Korean and Vietnam wars, and even brought in a large amount of chemical weapons to South Korea after the Korean war, and that the South Korean puppets are preparing for a chemical war by reserving a large amount of chemical weapons under the protection of the United States.

The paper pointed out that recently the South Korean puppets decided to produce chemical weapons in a meeting of so-called related authorities and to submit it to the National Assembly. The paper also exposed that the South Korean puppets presently possess some 12 chemical weapon plants and have a deposit of over 25,000 chemical weapons.

This means that the South Korean puppets have secretly accelerated the preparations for chemical war and is now trying to push for such preparations legally and openly. It is an intolerable criminal act to drive fellow country men into the disaster of chemical weapons in addition to nuclear weapons.

As everyone knows, the world's peace-loving people today strongly demand the complete abolition of chemical weapons, together with nuclear weapons, which are mass lethal weapons. Chemical weapons which kill and injure people with toxic chemicals have been branded as the cruelest massacre weapon and their use and development are banned by international agreement.

Nevertheless, the South Korean puppets have produced and stored chemical weapons for a long time. There are some 40 underground nuclear and chemical weapons storage facilities in the areas near Mt. Kyeryong in South Chungchong Province and Suwon in Kyonggi Province. Even numerous ion chemical weapons, which are known as the most vicious and cruelest of mass lethal weapons, are stored there.

Prattling about the possession of independent chemical warfare capabilities, the former South Korean dictators

built more than 10 toxic gas plants in South Korea and produced numerous chemical weapons.

The rascals brought in from the United States numerous military aircraft capable of dropping chemical bombs, and 155mm and 203mm guns which are capable of using them. The puppet army units have been operating chemical, biological, and radiological warfare schools for a long time to train chemical warfare specialists.

The South Korean puppets also staged systematic chemical war exercises in collaboration with foreign forces. The fact that new chemical warfare equipment was deployed in the Team Spirit joint military exercise and that units specialized in chemical warfare training participated is one of the examples.

Reporting on the true aspects of chemical war exercise staged during the Team Spirit joint military exercise, a South Korean broadcast revealed that in a chemical war exercise, a stimulated North area was wiped out by attacks by aircraft and by dropping smoke bombs, chemical bombs, germ bombs, and even drumming bombs so that no creature could survive.

These facts prove that the South Korean puppets have accelerated chemical war preparations for a long time. What cannot be overlooked is that the South Korean puppets are bragging about someone's development of biological weapons while scheming a chemical war against fellow countrymen. This is a scheme designed to legalize the chemical war maneuvers, which the rascals pushed for in such a manner as to lay blame on us, and to openly accelerate such maneuvers.

By spreading groundless rumors about us, the Kim Yong-sam puppet clique openly announced that it decided to possess chemical weapons. This clearly shows how intentionally it is maneuvering to possess chemical weapons legally, not in a concealed manner, and to openly accelerate chemical war preparations.

The puppet clique's past criminal acts were so enormous that it is impossible to conceal its chemical war maneuvers in such a manner as to reverse black and white. Kim Yong-sam, the puppet traitor who bragged that any foreign force could not be better than fellow countrymen in the beginning of his regime, is openly talking gibberish about possession of chemical weapons while stressing that one should foster strength.

The Kim Yong-sam puppet clique, which put out the signboard of civilian government, is attempting to inflict disaster of chemical weapons in addition to nuclear calamities on fellow countrymen together with outside forces. Thus, its filthy shape as ugly national traitor, murderer, and warmonger, has been exposed once again.

The Kim Yong-sam puppet clique, which turned down fellow countrymen's peace proposal and is dreaming of nuclear and chemical war, cannot avoid stern punishment by the nation. The Kim Yong-sam clique should look straight at the rushing flow of all fellow countrymen

toward peace and reunification and should act with discretion. It should stop reckless war maneuvers and step down from power without delay.

Anti-Pomminnyon Actions by South Denounced

*SK3012062093 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0510
GMT 30 Dec 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, December 30 (KCNA)—The North side headquarters of the National Alliance for the Country's Reunification (Pomminnyon) issued an indictment on December 29 roundly exposing the anti-reunification, anti-national crimes of the South Korean authorities for viciously suppressing the patriotic movement of Pomminnyon for reunification.

According to the indictment, Pomminnyon became a target of suppression and was outlawed in South Korea from the preparatory stage of its inauguration.

The South Korean authorities scuttled tripartite working-level talks between delegates of the North, South and overseas for the formation of a pan-national umbrella organization of the reunification movement which were to be held at Panmunjom on November 12, 1990, crying that they would not allow a contact with people of the North. And, by invoking the "National Security Law" they committed the criminal act of punishing the South side's delegates who participated in the Berlin tripartite working-level talks which declared the formation of Pomminnyon to the world.

In a bid to block the formation of the South side headquarters of Pomminnyon, the South Korean authorities put under house arrest Rev. Mun Ik-hwan who had been elected chairman of its preparatory committee on the threshold of its inaugural meeting on January 23, 1991 and took into custody or put on the "want list" members of the preparatory committee, charging them with the violation of the "National Security Law". By doing so, they checked the formation of the South side headquarters of Pomminnyon which was to be declared on July 20, 1991. They committed such outrages repeatedly in the later period.

Still now, after the emergence of a new "civilian government," the South Korean authorities brand the pan-national rally and other functions for reunification, contact of people of different strata and debate on reunification as "acts benefiting the enemy" by the argument of self-opinionated "unified channel of dialogue," the indictment says, and continues:

In the early days of their office the present South Korean authorities barred the South side's delegates from participating in the Beijing meeting of the presidium of Pomminnyon for the fourth pan-national rally in 1993 and blocked the opening of the fourth rally in Seoul at the point of the bayonet.

Under the cloak of "the unified channel of dialogue" they "outlawed" the Pomminnyon movement in South

Korea including the pan-national rally and harshly suppressed the reunification champions in South Korea who were involved in the patriotic movement of Pomminnyon for reunification.

A total of 251,500 police were hurled into the repression of Pomminnyon and 87,000 patriotic reunification champions were arrested in the period of four rounds of pan-national rally.

By manipulating the "Security Planning Board" (SPB), the general headquarters of plot-breeding and fascist repression, the present South Korean authorities outlawed the Pomminnyon movement and are trying to disorganize and dissolve this organisation.

The "SPB" is systematically spying on the secret of the Pomminnyon organisation through such intelligence activities as operation by agents, watch, shadowing, bugging and mail censorship.

It resorts to political tricks of spreading rumors for disintegrating Pomminnyon from within and making it a fait accompli.

The "SPB" commits tricky subversive acts without hesitation; it infiltrates various places overseas where regional organisations of Pomminnyon are based and brings together betrayers against the nation and frames up various anti-reunification organisations under the "reunification" veil and opposes them to Pomminnyon.

The indictment continues:

The Kim Yong-sam group must immediately scrap such anti-national, anti-reunification legal and institutional mechanisms as the "National Security Law" and the "Security Planning Board" denounced by the fellow countrymen and stop suppressing and disorganising Pomminnyon.

Anyone who truly loves the country and values the nation should keep step with the grand march toward Reunification of Pomminnyon, a joint patriotic umbrella organisation for reunification, on the basis of the idea of great national unity.

We express the expectation that the world people and progressive organisations that love justice and peace will lift up louder voices of support and encouragement to Pomminnyon.

Further on Visit by Pakistan Prime Minister

Islamabad TV on Bhutto Arrival

*BK2912150793 Islamabad PTV Television Network in
English 1400 GMT 29 Dec 93*

[Excerpts] A very warm and cordial welcome was given to Prime Minister Ms. Benazir Bhutto when she arrived in Pyongyang this afternoon on a two-day official visit to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. The

Pyongyang international airport was tastefully decorated to greet the distinguished guest. [passage omitted on airport ceremony]

At the Presidency, the prime minister, Ms. Benazir Bhutto, was received by President Kim Il-song. National anthems of the two countries were played on the occasion. Contingent of the presidential bodyguard presented guard of honor. President Kim Il-song introduced members of his cabinet to Prime Minister Ms. Benazir Bhutto. The prime minister then introduced members of her entourage to the DPRK president.

At the Presidency, Ms. Benazir Bhutto called on President Kim Il-song. Members of her entourage were also present on the occasion. During the meeting which lasted for about 30 minutes, President Kim Il-song welcomed the prime minister and also felicitated her on her election as the prime minister of Pakistan. He hoped that her visit would further strengthen the bonds of friendship between the two countries. President Kim Il-song also condoled the death of Zulfikar Ali Bhutto and paid tributes to him. He told Ms. Benazir Bhutto in the meeting that I have met your distinguished father. Prime Minister Ms. Benazir Bhutto thanked him for the sentiments expressed by Mr. Kim Il-song and said the aim of her visit to DPRK is to further enhance the friendly relations between Pakistan the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Addressing a news conference in Beijing before her departure for Pyongyang, Ms. Benazir Bhutto termed her visit to China as most rewarding.

[Begin Bhutto recording] China and Pakistan have complete understanding on global and regional issues. At the bilateral level, our traditional ties have been reinvested with vigor. Ours is a model relationship which has been tested by time and has proved itself in all kinds of political weather. Mutual trust and shared perception are the key elements of this relationship.

On nuclear nonproliferation [NPT], I informed the Chinese leaders that Pakistan was prepared to accept global or regional proposal for nuclear nonproliferation provided that India did the same. More specifically, both China and Pakistan supported a nuclear-weapon-free zone in South Asia. We also supported the five-nation proposal for regional nuclear nonproliferation. This proposal has also been supported by the United States and the Soviet Union.

Chinese leaders assured me that they appreciated Pakistan's position on Kashmir and they expressed concern at the plight of the Kashmiri people. Chinese leaders have welcomed the holding of talks and believe that a solution to this issue must be found through peaceful negotiations. I was deeply moved during my talks with the president. The president stated that Pakistan was China's closest friend and that China would never forget an old friend. The prime minister assured me that China will always remain Pakistan's staunch ally regardless of any changes in the world. [end recording]

Bhutto Visits With Kim Il-song

*SK2912153693 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1501
GMT 29 Dec 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, December 29 (KCNA)—Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan paid a courtesy call on President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea today.

Present on the occasion were members of the Pakistani Government delegation—the prime minister's husband Asif Ali Zardari, Foreign Minister Sardar Asif Ahmad Ali, Minister of Defence Aftab Shaban Mirani, adviser to the prime minister for finance and economic affairs V.A. Jaffery, Chief Minister of Punjab Province Mian Manzoor Ahmad Watoo, Minister of State for Commerce Ch. Ahmad Mukhtar, speaker of the Punjab Assembly Mohammad Hanif Ramay—and the suite.

Present there were Premier Kang Song-san, Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam, chief of the General Staff of the Korean People's Army Choe Kwang, Vice-Premier Kim Pok-sin and officials concerned.

President Kim Il-song conversed with Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto in a cordial and friendly atmosphere.

Kim Il-song Greet Benazir Bhutto

*SK2912154393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1507
GMT 29 Dec 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, December 29 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea greeted today Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan on an official goodwill visit to Korea.

President Kim Il-song exchanged warm greetings with Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto.

A welcome ceremony took place.

In company with President Kim Il-song, Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto reviewed a guard of honor of the three services of the Korean People's Army.

Present at the welcome ceremony were the members of the delegation the prime minister's husband Asif Ali Zardari, Foreign Minister Sardar Asif Ahmad Ali, Minister of Defence Aftab Shaban Mirani, adviser to the prime minister for finance and economic affairs V.A. Jaffery, chief minister of Punjab Province Mian Manzoor Ahmad Watoo, Minister of State for Commerce Ch. Ahmad Mukhtar, Speaker of the Punjab Assembly Mohammad Hanif Ramay, and the suite.

Premier Kang Song-san, Vice-premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam, chief of the General Staff of the Korean People's Army Choe Kwang, Vice-premier Kim Pok-sin and officials concerned were on hand.

President Delivers Speech at Banquet

*SK2912155793 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1520
GMT 29 Dec 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, December 29 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea arranged a banquet today in honor of the government delegation of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan headed by Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto on a visit to Korea, and made a speech.

Warmly welcoming the Korean visit of Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto and her entourage, President Kim Il-song said:

This is my first meeting with your excellency prime minister, but I have known of you well through your late father and various other channels. I am happy to meet you and make an acquaintance with you as my close friend on this occasion.

My meeting today with Your Excellency Prime Minister brings back, with deep emotion, my cherished memory of His Excellency the late Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, an old friend of ours. It is indeed with good feelings that we cherish the memory of him in high esteem. During his lifetime, His Excellency the late Zulfikar Ali Bhutto had done a great deal of work to promote the friendship between the peoples of Korea and Pakistan and always paid deep attention to and expressed his whole-hearted sympathy with and support for our people's struggle for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country. His Excellency the late Zulfikar Ali Bhutto's exploits recorded in the history of friendship between our two countries will remain indelible forever in the memory of our people.

This time, you have come to visit us despite your days of tight engagements following your assumption of heavy responsibility as prime minister. I believe that this visit clearly shows that you set great store by the friendly relations existing between our two countries and desire to consolidate and develop these relations steadily.

Your Excellency Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto, you enjoy a high reputation among the Pakistani people as a strong-willed and courageous politician. I would like to warmly congratulate you once again on your election as prime minister of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan in October this year thanks to the high confidence of the Pakistani people.

Today, the new government under your leadership is leading your country along the road of new development. With an unfaltering conviction despite a variety of storm and stress and repeated tribulations, you are working energetically to maintain independence, promote national unity and build a progressive and democratic Pakistan, true to His Excellency the late Zulfikar Ali Bhutto's idea of considering and judging everything from the viewpoint of Pakistan's interests. We highly appreciate the active efforts by Your Excellency Prime

Minister Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto to attain your country's stability, develop the national economy and build a new prosperous society, and express our firm solidarity with you in your just struggle for cooperation and peace in South Asia.

Despite the complicated and acute situation today, our people are closely united behind our party and the government of our Republic, and they are working hard to defend, safeguard and develop socialism centred on the popular masses in our country and to reunify the country. Our people will, in the future, too, continue their vigorous march forward along the road of socialism under the uplifted banner of the *chuche* idea and make every effort to bring earlier the independent and peaceful reunification of the country.

Both Korea and Pakistan are the developing countries situated in Asia.

The present-day situation calls on the Asian people, as the masters of Asia, to carve out Asia's future independently. The huge population and the rich natural resources in Asia, plus the experiences and technical know-how acquired by the Asian people in building their new societies, constitute an important guarantee for the common prosperity of Asia. If the people of the Asian countries unite on the basis of independence and expand and develop South-South cooperation on the principle of collective self-reliance, they will be able to build a new, independent and prosperous Asia free from domination and subjugation.

We will advance in unity with the Asian people, including the Pakistani people, on the basis of the ideals of independence, peace and friendship and actively contribute to the common cause of the Asian people to build a new, free and prosperous Asia.

We are going to ring in the hopeful new year of 1994 shortly.

Allow me to take this opportunity in sincerely wishing Your Excellency Esteemed Prime Minister good health and happiness and good successes in your responsible work for the prosperity of your country in the new year.

Radio on Kim Il-song Speech

*SK2912232493 Pyongyang Korean Central
Broadcasting Network in Korean 2100 GMT 29 Dec 93*

[Text] President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea held a banquet today in honor of the government delegation of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan headed by Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto on a visit to Korea, and made a speech.

Warmly welcoming the Korean visit of Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto and her entourage, President Kim Il-song said:

Your Excellency Esteemed Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, guests from Pakistan, comrades and friends: We

are pleased that we could have this occasion welcoming Your Excellency Benazir Bhutto, chairwoman of the Pakistan People's Party and prime minister of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan in Pyongyang.

Your Excellency has visited our country with the lofty wish to continue to nurture the blossoming of the garden of friendship between the DPRK and Pakistan generation after generation following the road of friendship pioneered 17 years ago by His Excellency Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, your beloved father and former prime minister of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan.

On behalf of our Republic Government, the people of the DPRK, and myself, I warmly welcome the visit of Your Excellency Esteemed Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto and your entourage to our country.

This is my first meeting with your excellency prime minister, but I have known of you well through your late father and various other channels. I am happy to meet you and make your acquaintance as my close friend on this occasion.

My meeting today with Your Excellency Prime Minister brings back, with deep emotion, my cherished memory of His Excellency the late Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, an old friend of ours. It is indeed with good feelings that we cherish the memory of him in high esteem. During his lifetime, His Excellency the late Zulfikar Ali Bhutto had done a great deal of work to promote the friendship between the peoples of Korea and Pakistan and always paid deep attention to and expressed his whole-hearted sympathy with and support for our people's struggle for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country. His Excellency the late Zulfikar Ali Bhutto's exploits recorded in the history of friendship between our two countries will remain indelible forever in the memory of our people.

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from the viewpoint of Pakistan's interests. We highly appreciate the active efforts by Your Excellency Prime Minister Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto to attain your country's stability, develop the national economy and build a new prosperous society, and express our firm solidarity with you in your just struggle for cooperation and peace in South Asia.

Despite the complicated and acute situation today, our people are closely united behind our party and the government of our Republic, and they are working hard to defend, safeguard and develop socialism centred on the popular masses in our country and to reunify the country. Our people will, in the future, too, continue their vigorous march forward along the road of socialism under the uplifted banner of the *chuche* idea and make every effort to bring earlier the independent and peaceful reunification of the country.

Both Korea and Pakistan are developing countries situated in Asia.

The present-day situation calls on the Asian people, as the masters of Asia, to carve out Asia's future independently. The huge population and the rich natural resources in Asia, plus the experiences and technical know-how acquired by the Asian people in building their new societies, constitute an important guarantee for the common prosperity of Asia. If the people of the Asian countries unite on the basis of independence and expand and develop South-South cooperation on the principle of collective self-reliance, they will be able to build a new, independent and prosperous Asia free from domination and subjugation.

We will advance in unity with the Asian people, including the Pakistani people, on the basis of the ideals of independence, peace and friendship and actively contribute to the common cause of the Asian people to build a new, free and prosperous Asia. We are going to ring in the hopeful new year of 1994 shortly. Allow me to take this opportunity in sincerely wishing Your Excellency Esteemed Prime Minister good health and happiness and good successes in your responsible work for the prosperity of your country in the new year.

At this meaningful occasion sharing the joy of reunion upon receiving the Pakistani goodwill mission, I propose a toast for the friendship and unity between the peoples of the DPRK and Pakistan, for the prosperity of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, for the unity of the world's progressive people who defend independence, for the long life of Your Excellency Esteemed Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, for the health of guests from Pakistan, and for the health of comrades and friends present on this occasion.

'Text' of Bhutto Banquet Speech

*SK3012031193 Pyongyang Korean Central
Broadcasting Network in Korean 2100 GMT 29 Dec 93*

[“Text” of speech by Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto at a banquet hosted by President Kim Il-song on 29 December in Pyongyang—read by announcer]

[Text] Your Excellency Great Leader President Kim Il-song, your excellencies, ladies and gentlemen: I am very pleased and honored that our mission is visiting the DPRK. We have been receiving a memorable reception from your excellency and the government and people of your country since the first moment we arrived in your country. Such splendid hospitality reflects our two countries' warm relations. This also shows your friendship toward the people of Pakistan. We are deeply moved by your warm and sincere friendship.

Our friendship has a long tradition. We deeply appreciate the cooperation that your country has always extended to us every time we have been faced with difficult times. The convergence of views on many important international and regional issues between our two countries is also a matter of immense satisfaction, and guarantees a strong edifice for building our relations in the years to come. This magnificent banquet that your excellency the president is hosting is yet another manifestation of your excellency's cordial sentiments toward Pakistan.

I am deeply moved by your kind remarks about my father and myself in the speech you have just delivered. As your excellency has just mentioned, the visit is the realization of the long-cherished wish of not only myself but my father and Former Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto. My father suggested that I visit the DPRK when I finished my education in 1977. Therefore, my visit was destined long ago.

Your Excellency, I recall it was during the government of my father Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto that full diplomatic relations were established between our two countries. Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto always held your excellency in the highest regard and admired the achievements of the people of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. During the visit, we witnessed the DPRK people's astonishing progress in rebuilding the country, developing economy, and modernizing agriculture and industries with collective and patriot efforts displaying the spirit of fortitude and embodying the principle of self-reliance.

I and the members of my delegation are deeply impressed by the splendid achievements of the people of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea under your excellency's dynamic leadership. We wish you further progress and prosperity.

Your Excellency, the world scene has witnessed profound changes during the past few years. The winds of change come from various directions. Such changes do

not come in a single form. The global order has been shaken but not transformed. The situation is characterized by myriad uncertainties.

The challenge for us is to lend a definite direction to the process of change and to ensure that the world political and economic order is based, firmly and solidly, on the principles of justice, equity, and equality so that peace, prosperity, and socioeconomic well-being do not remain the prerogative of a few privileged countries.

Asian countries should cooperate with each other to develop their potentials. We can meet the challenge only if the right of all peoples to freedom and development is recognized and adequate global institutional arrangements are made to enable all members of the family of nations to live in peace and dignity and free from want, deprivation, and intimidation. It is essential to ensure that all nations, big and small, participate in the formulation of the global agenda and in its implementation.

The Government of Pakistan has exerted efforts to promote the socioeconomic well-being of its people. The establishment of tension-free, constructive, and mutually beneficial relations with the countries of our region has been an enduring goal of our foreign policy.

We have been able to maintain friendly relations with all surrounding countries. However, the relations with India are still aggravated because the issue of Jammu and Kashmir remains unresolved. A fair and constant resolution to the issue of Jammu and Kashmir is an indispensable prerequisite for establishing peaceful and cooperative relations between Pakistan and India. The need to seek a constant resolution to the dispute is more critical considering the uprising going on in Jammu and Kashmir. The people there are entitled to their right to self-determination through India and Pakistan's firm guarantee, and various resolutions adopted by the international community in the UN Security Council. The people of Jammu and Kashmir are being brutally suppressed. They deserve the sympathy and support of the international community.

Your Excellency, Pakistan firmly holds the view that nuclear nonproliferation should not be made a pretext for preventing states from fully exercising their right to acquire and develop nuclear technology for peaceful purposes geared to their economic and social developments. Pakistan is committed to nuclear nonproliferation, both at the global and regional levels. It is not fair to cast doubts on Pakistan's intentions and to subject Pakistan to discriminatory treatment. Pakistan has expressed many times its readiness to carry out bilateral or multilateral negotiation or sign a treaty with India on a fair and nondiscriminatory basis to denuclearize our region.

Your Excellency, Pakistan extends its full support for Korean reunification and believes that the matter should be resolved by the Korean people themselves through

peaceful means, without external interference in accordance with the North-South joint statement of 4 July 1972.

Pakistan welcomes the talks between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the United States aimed at reducing tension on the Korean peninsula. Regarding the claim the DPRK is not complying with the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, Pakistan adheres to the position of the principle that the issue should be resolved through dialogue and negotiations.

We are proud that the relations between Pakistan and the DPRK are developing excellently. Such relations are based on the principle clearly defined by the UN Charter, and these are not relations against any country.

Pakistan and the DPRK share a common desire to strengthen relations in various fields for the benefit of our two countries and peoples and for the peace and prosperity of the world.

Ladies and gentlemen, I propose a toast to the good health, happiness and long life of the great leader His Excellency President Kim Il-song, to the health, happiness and long life of the beloved leader His Excellency Marshal Kim Chong-il and to ever-growing friendship and cooperation between Pakistan and the DPRK.

Islamabad Reports Bhutto Speech

BK3012035593 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 0200 GMT 30 Dec 93

[Text] The prime minister, Ms. Benazir Bhutto, said that the world economic and political order should be based on the principles of justice and equality so that the fruits of peace, prosperity, and socioeconomic development do not remain restricted to only a handful of privileged nations. She was addressing a banquet in her honor hosted by DPRK President Kim Il-song in Pyongyang last night. She stressed the need for an international order under which small countries can live with honor and dignity without any fear or apprehension or a feeling of deprivation. It is possible only when we acknowledge that every country has the right to independence and development, she added.

Referring to Pakistan-India relations, Ms. Benazir Bhutto said that a just and durable resolution of the Kashmir dispute is a prerequisite for the establishment of peaceful and cooperative relations. She said that the popular struggle in occupied Kashmir has further enhanced the need for the resolution of the issue. She recalled that not only Pakistan and India, but the whole international fraternity had pledged to grant the Kashmiris their right to self-determination.

On the nuclear issue, the prime minister said that Pakistan firmly believes in nuclear nonproliferation. But it should not be the pretext to deprive developing countries of the peaceful uses of nuclear technology. Ms. Benazir Bhutto said that Pakistan favors prevention of nuclear proliferation both at regional and global levels

and it has repeatedly expressed its readiness to enter into any just and nondiscriminatory bilateral or multilateral agreement which includes India.

The prime minister said that Pakistan is proud of its excellent relations with the DPRK, which is based on the UN Charter and not directed against any other country. Earlier, in his speech, President Kim Il-song urged Asian countries to unite on the basis of independence and sovereignty and to promote cooperation among developing countries while keeping in view the principle of collective self-reliance so as to create a new independent and prosperous Asia free from subjugation and exploitation. The North Korean president lauded the efforts being made by Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto for maintaining her country's independence and sovereignty, promoting national unity and integrity, and establishing a prosperous and democratic society in her country. He expressed confidence that the Pakistani prime minister's current visit will promote further the friendship and cooperation between the two countries. He hoped that Ms. Benazir's Bhutto's government will lead the country on the path of progress.

The prime minister and the DPRK president are to hold formal talks in Pyongyang this morning. Ashraf Ansari, Radio Pakistan's special representative, says that bilateral relations and regional and international issues are expected to be discussed during the talks.

Kim Il-song, Bhutto Hold Talks

SK3012105893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1007 GMT 30 Dec 93

[Text] Pyongyang, December 30 (KCNA)—Talks were held here today between President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan.

Present at the talks on the Korean side were Premier Kang Song-san, Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam, chief of the General Staff of the Korean People's Army Choe Kwang, Chairman of the Pyongyang Municipal Administrative and Economic Committee Pak Nam-ki, Chairman of the Committee for Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries Chong Chun-ki, Chairman of the DPRK Radio and TV Broadcasting Committee Chong Ha-chol who is chairman of the Korea-Pakistan Friendship Association, Chairman of the State External Economic Affairs Commission Yi Song-tae, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs Cho Kyu-il and Korean Ambassador E.P. [extraordinary and plenipotentiary] to Pakistan Choe Su-il.

Present on the Pakistani side were the members of the government delegation—Foreign Minister Sardar Asif Ahmad Ali, Minister of Defence Aftab Shaban Mirani, adviser to the prime minister for finance and economic affairs V.A. Jaffery, Chief Minister of Punjab Province Mian Manzoor Ahmad Watoo, Minister of State for Commerce Ch. Ahmad Mukhtar, Speaker of the Punjab

Assembly Mohammad Hanif Ramay, Charge d'Affaires ad Interim of the Pakistani Embassy here Shafgat Ali Cheema—and others.

The talks took place in a sincere and friendly atmosphere.

Kim Il-song, Bhutto Exchange Gifts

*SK3012111693 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1010
GMT 30 Dec 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, December 30 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea was presented with a gift by Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan on December 30.

Present were the prime minister's husband Asif Ali Zardari, Foreign Minister Sardar Asif Ahmad Ali and other members of the government delegation of Pakistan and the suite.

Premier Kang Song-san, Vice-premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam and officials concerned were present on hand.

President Kim Il-song saw the gift and expressed thanks for it.

He presented a gift to Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto today.

She saw the gift and expressed thanks for it.

Kim Chong-il Receives Gift

*SK3012111993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1011
GMT 30 Dec 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, December 30 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il chairman of the National Defence Commission of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and supreme commander of the Korean People's Army, received a gift from Benazir Bhutto, prime minister of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, on an official goodwill visit to Korea.

The gift was handed to an official concerned today.

Bhutto Tours Sites in Pyongyang

*SK3012143893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1030
GMT 30 Dec 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, December 30 (KCNA)—Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto on an official goodwill visit to Korea at the head of a government delegation of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan visited historical Mangyongdae today.

The prime minister and the members of the delegation saw round with keen interest the old home in Mangyongdae where President Kim Il-song was born and spent his childhood, fostering his lofty aim of revolution and the relics preserved there with good care.

The guests posed for a souvenir picture in front of the old home.

Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto planted a memorial tree.

The prime minister also inspected the Mangyongdae School Children's Palace, a seat of extramural education of school children, and went round the grand and beautiful Pyongyang metro.

Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto and the members of the delegation appreciated a music and dance performance of artistes in Pyongyang at the Mansudae Art Theatre.

Some members of the delegation inspected the three revolution exhibition.

PRC Leaders' Remarks on Nuclear Issue Noted

*SK3012061993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0439
GMT 30 Dec 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, December 30 (KCNA)—The Chinese premier and foreign minister supported denuclearization on the Korean peninsula at their talks with the UN secretary-general, according to a XINHUA report.

On the 26th, Chinese Premier Li Peng said that China expects denuclearization on the Korean peninsula will be realized at an early date, for this will be not only conducive to peace and stability in the peninsula, but also beneficial to peace and stability in the region and in the world as a whole. He stated that China favors a proper settlement of the issue through dialogue and consultations, instead of imposing pressure and sanctions.

On the 27th, Foreign Minister Qian Qichen said that China is opposed to any nuclear arms on the Korean peninsula and supports the denuclearization of the region.

"We hold that the denuclearization of the peninsula should be achieved properly through dialogues and consultations, instead of imposing pressure," he stated, and added that a dialogue between Korea and the United States is of great significance to solving the issue.

Jiang Zemin Receives DPRK Troupe 26 Dec

*SK3012034193 Pyongyang Korean Central
Broadcasting Network in Korean 2215 GMT 27 Dec 93*

[Text] Comrade Jiang Zemin, general secretary of the CPC Central Committee and state president, received the commanding staffs of the DPRK Art Troupe led by Ho Paek-san, first vice minister of the Ministry of Culture and Art, in Beijing on 26 December. Present there were Hu Jintao, member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau and member of the Secretariat of the CPC Central Committee; Li Tieying, member of the Political Bureau of the party Central Committee and member of the State Council; Hu Guangbao, director of General Office of the party Central Committee; Liu Zhongde, minister of the Ministry of

Culture; Tang Jiaxuan, vice minister of the Foreign Affairs; and other relevant officials. Chu Chang-chun, DPRK ambassador to the PRC, was present there as well.

At the meeting, the ambassador delivered greetings from the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il to Comrade Jiang Zemin. Comrade Jiang Zemin expressed his deep thanks for their greetings and asked the ambassador to convey his greetings to the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

He said that in the course of protracted revolutionary struggle, President Kim Il-song forged deep friendly relations with veteran Chinese revolutionaries, and that the revolutionary friendship between the Chinese and Korean people was forged in blood.

He said that the Korean artistes would greatly contribute to strengthening friendship between China and Korea by bringing a beautiful art to China. He warmly welcomed the Korean artistes for their performance in China at the time of the 100th anniversary of Comrade Mao Zedong's birthday. He stressed that the friendship between the people of the two countries of China and Korea, which is forged in blood, will be forever in the future under any situation.

Talks were held in a warm and friendly atmosphere.

Chinese Envoys Attend Film on Mao Anniversary

*SK3012062793 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0441
GMT 30 Dec 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, December 30 (KCNA)—A film show was held here Wednesday on the centenary of the birth of Mao Zedong.

Invited there were Chinese Ambassador to Korea Qiao Zonghuai and embassy officials.

Present were Yi Cha-pang, chairman of the State Commission of Science and Technology and chairman of the Central Committee of the Korea-China Friendship Association; Chi Chae-yong, vice-director of a department of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea; Chon Yon-ok, vice-chairwoman of the Committee for Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries; U Ki-nam, vice-minister of commerce; and other officials concerned and working people in the city.

The participants saw the Chinese feature film "Mao Zedong and His Son."

Japanese Legislator, Delegation Arrive on Visit

*SK2912051293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0451
GMT 29 Dec 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, December 29 (KCNA)—Hajime Fukada, member of the Central Executive Committee and director of the Organizational Department of the Japan Social-Democratic Party, secretary general of the

Dietmen's League for the Promotion of Japan-Korea Friendship and member of the House of Councillors, and his entourage flew in here Tuesday.

They were met at the airport by Kim Yang-kon, vice-director of a department of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and chairman of the Association for the Promotion of Korea-Japan Friendship.

Meets Secretary Hwang 30 Dec

*SK3012114293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1027
GMT 30 Dec 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, December 30 (KCNA)—Secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea Hwang Chang-yop today met and had a friendly talk with Hajime Fukada, member of the Central Executive Committee and director of the organizational department of the Japan Social Democratic Party, secretary general of the Dietmen's league for the promotion of Japan-Korea Friendship and member of the House of Councillors, and his entourage.

Kim Il-song Sends Aid for Koreans in Japan

*SK3012110893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1013
GMT 30 Dec 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, December 30 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song sent 109,950,000 yen in educational aid fund and stipends to Koreans in Japan for the democratic national education of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan on the occasion of the new year 1994.

This 125th instalment brought to 41,799,992,433 yen the total amount of educational aid fund and stipends sent by him for Korean children in Japan.

Daily Criticizes Japanese Party Leader's Remarks

*SK3012104993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1003
GMT 30 Dec 93*

["Militarist Act of Those in Reinvasion Fever"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, December 30 (KCNA)—The president of the Japan Liberal Democratic Party recently described the war of Japan during World War II as a war to "defend" the country, not a war of aggression.

NODONG SINMUN today denounces his remark as one showing the ideological and mental state of the Japanese reactionaries who have caught the fever of reinvasion.

The paper in a by-lined article says:

Reactionary functions inciting militarism are overtly held in Japan and the reactionary ruling quarters take the lead in this. By whitewashing and lauding the acts of aggression of the Japanese imperialists, the Japanese

reactionaries intend to instil the aggressive idea of militarism into the minds of the Japanese people. That is why the reactionary ruling quarters of Japan are paying tribute to those who earned ill fame in the war of aggression on Asian countries in the past.

The Japanese reactionaries are inciting militarism in an organised and systematic way. This move is all the more dangerous because it is connected with the troop dispatch for overseas aggression today. They scheme to actively dispatch the "Self-Defence Forces" (SDF) to Asian countries, claiming that Japan must play a big role for "peace and security" in Asia. They openly argue that they would dispatch the "SDF" to Korea within the framework of "U.N. forces" in "case of emergency" on the Korean peninsula.

If Japan's moves are not checked and foiled, Asia will suffer disasters again and peace and security in this region will be exposed to a grave threat.

The Korean and other peoples in Asia are vigilantly watching the undisguised militarist moves of Japan for reinvasion.

The Japanese reactionaries must look straight at the reality today and act with discretion.

Rally Demands 'Sincere Apology' From Japan

SK2912040893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0402 GMT 29 Dec 93

[Text] Tokyo, December 26 (KNS-KCNA)—A rally for demanding war responsibility, sincere apology and postwar compensation was held on December 11 under the sponsorship of the Saitama Prefectural Women's Council for support to Korea's independent and peaceful reunification.

Present at the rally were delegates of seven women's organizations including the Japan Women's Council and the Women Department of the Buraku Liberation League.

A request to the Japanese Government authorities and political parties was adopted there.

Noting that Japan can never evade its responsibility for the past colonial domination over Korea and all the consequences therefrom, the request called upon the prime minister and the coalition political parties to resume unconditionally and immediately the talks for normalization of Japan-DPRK diplomatic relations in accordance with the three-party joint declaration, to exert diplomatic efforts for an early realization of Korea's independent and peaceful reunification, to make an apology and compensation to Korean draftees and "comfort women for the Army" as were dealt with at the UN Commission on Human Rights, ensure the Korean residents in Japan their national rights.

The request was sent to the prime minister, the Foreign Ministry, the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Transport and seven coalition political parties.

Cuba's Castro Receives KPA Navy Delegation

SK2912052993 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1200 GMT 28 Dec 93

[Text] Comrade Fidel Castro Ruz, first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba [CPC] Central Committee, president of Council of State of the Republic of Cuba, and prime minister, received the Korean People's Army's [KPA] Navy delegation led by Admiral Kim Il-chol in Havana on 26 December.

At the meeting, the head of the delegation conveyed the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il's greetings to Comrade Fidel Castro Ruz.

Expressing deep thanks for this, Comrade Fidel Castro Ruz asked the head of the delegation to convey his warm greetings to the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il. He also asked the head of the delegation to convey a message to the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il that Cuba will overcome prevailing difficulties without fail and will safeguard socialism to the last.

Present at the meeting were Roberto Robaina Gonzalez, member of the Political Bureau of CPC Central Committee and foreign minister; chairman of the National Committee of Cuban Women's Union, vice minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces and commander of the Navy, who are members of the party Central Committee; and the ambassador and military attache in our country's embassy in Cuba.

Meeting Marks Cuban Revolution Anniversary

SK2912045893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0441 GMT 29 Dec 93

[Text] Pyongyang, December 29 (KCNA)—A national meeting was held here Tuesday to commemorate the 35th anniversary of the victory of revolution in Cuba.

Speaking at the meeting, chairman of the Committee for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries Chong Chun-ki referred to the historical victory won by the Cuban people on January 1, 1959, through their bloody struggle under the guidance of Comrade Fidel Castro Ruz, leader of the Cuban revolution. "The victory was an epochal event that put an end to the domination and subjugation, backwardness and poverty in Cuba and opened the road to socialism guaranteeing its independence and sovereignty, creation and prosperity," he noted.

"The adoption of a resolution demanding termination of the U.S. economic blockade against Cuba at the United Nations General Assembly in November with the

approval of an overwhelming majority was an international demonstration of support and sympathy for the Cuban people who were vigorously advancing along the road of socialism chosen by themselves, not yielding to any strongarm pressure, threats of blockade and blackmail of the imperialists", he said, and continued:

"The Korean people will always advance shoulder to shoulder with the Cuban people in the common struggle against imperialism and for independence and socialism, and make all efforts to develop the relations of friendship and cooperation with them."

Cuban Ambassador to Korea Juan Jose Leon Vega in his speech said Cuba and Korea are sure to win victory because they have the two great peoples and two great parties and hold in high esteem illustrious leaders, the great leader of the Korean people Comrade Kim Il-song and supreme commander of the Cuban people Comrade Fidel Castro Ruz.

He reassured Comrade Kim Il-song, Comrade Kim Chong-il and the Workers' Party, government and people of Korea of the full support of the Cuban revolution for the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea, on the occasion of the 35th anniversary of the victory of revolution in Cuba.

"I firmly assure you that the Cuban people will always stand by the Korean people, whatever difficulties may crop up," he said, and stressed: "Cuba will continue to demand that U.S. troops withdraw from South Korea, taking along all their military equipment."

Present at the meeting was Vice-Premier Hong Song-nam.

Photo Exhibit Marks Anniversary

*SK3012062993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0445
GMT 30 Dec 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, December 30 (KCNA)—A photo exhibition opened and a film show took place at the Pyongyang International House of Culture Wednesday on the 35th anniversary of the victory of the Cuban revolution.

Invited there were Cuban Ambassador to Korea Juan Jose Leon Vega and embassy officials and Cuban visitors.

Present were Kim Kuk-hon, president of the University of National Economy and chairman of the Korean Committee for Afro-Asian Solidarity; Kim Chin-pom, vice-chairman of the Committee for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries, and Yi Chin-su, vice-chairman of the Central Committee of the General Federation of Trade Unions of Korea, who are vice chairmen of the Korea-Cuba Solidarity Committee; and officials concerned and working people in the city.

The participants saw pictures showing achievements of the Cuban people in socialist construction under the leadership of the Cuban party and government.

Then they appreciated the Cuban documentary film "January 1".

'Arafat Sends Flowers to Kim Il-song on New Year

*SK2912114193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1055
GMT 29 Dec 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, December 29 (KCNA)—A floral basket was sent to Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, by Yasir 'Arafat, president of the State of Palestine and chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization, on the occasion of the new year 1994.

The Palestinian Ambassador to Korea Shahir Mohammed conveyed it to an official concerned today.

'Arafat Greets Kim Chong-il

*SK2912114393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1056
GMT 29 Dec 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, December 29 (KCNA)—A floral basket was sent to the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il by Yasir 'Arafat, president of the State of Palestine and chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization, on the occasion of the new year 1994.

The Palestinian Ambassador to Korea Shahir Mohammed conveyed it to an official concerned today.

Military Attaches Send Letter to Kim Il-song

*SK3012111293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1014
GMT 30 Dec 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, December 30 (KCNA)—A floral basket and a congratulatory letter were sent to the great leader President Kim Il-song by the military attaches corps here on the occasion of the new year 1994.

Georgiy Mariyasov, military attache of the Russian Embassy and doyen of the corps, conveyed them to minister of People's Armed Forces O Chin-u today.

Attaches Greet Kim Chong-il

*SK3012115093 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1016
GMT 30 Dec 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, December 30 (KCNA)—A floral basket and a congratulatory letter were sent to the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, chairman of the National Defence Commission of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and supreme commander of the Korean People's Army, by the military attaches corps here on the occasion of the new year 1994.

Georgiy Mariyasov, military attache of the Russian Embassy and Doyen of the Corps, conveyed them to minister of people's Armed Forces O Chin-u today.

Hungarian Council of Ministers Chairman Greeted

*SK3012112693 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1017
GMT 30 Dec 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, December 30 (KCNA)—Premier Kang Song-san of the Administration Council sent a message of greetings to Peter Boross, chairman of the Council of Ministers of Hungary.

The message congratulated him upon his election as chairman of the Council of Ministers.

Bangladesh Parties Denounce 'U.S. Nuclear Threat'

*SK2912112393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1025
GMT 29 Dec 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, December 29 (KCNA)—Seven political parties and organisations of Bangladesh including the Central Committee of the Workers' Party, the Central Committee of the Workers and Peasants Socialist Party, the Central Executive Committee of the National Socialist Party on December 21 made public a joint statement denouncing the U.S. nuclear threat.

Expressing deep concern over the fact that the United States is laying hurdles in the way of the DPRK-U.S. talks under the pretext of inspection of the DPRK nuclear facilities by the International Atomic Energy Agency, the statement said:

"The nuclear threat in the Korean peninsula has been posed by the United States and it is entirely responsible for the solution of this problem.

"The United States should admit its responsibility and sincerely approach the DPRK-U.S. talks to remove the nuclear threat from the Korean peninsula.

"In face of the grave situation, we appeal to the peace-loving people of the world including the people of the United States to vehemently denounce the U.S. moves against the DPRK".

Foreign Groups Commemorate DPRK Constitution

*SK2912045093 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0434
GMT 29 Dec 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, December 29 (KCNA)—The 21st anniversary of the promulgation of the socialist Constitution of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (December 27, 1972) was commemorated in different countries.

A lecture was given on December 23 at the Department for Irrigation of the Mozambique Liberation Front Party.

"The socialist Constitution of the DPRK is the most popular one and man-centred one embodying the *chuche* idea," the lecturer stressed, and said:

"The Korean people are full-fledged masters in political, economic and cultural life for this excellent constitution."

It was stressed at lectures held by the Portuguese Central Committee for the study of Kimilsongism and in Spain that the people's power of the DPRK is carrying on its building and activities, guided by the *chuche* idea, thus providing the popular masses with genuine rights and freedom and a worthy and cultured life in all social spheres and firmly defending the independence of the country and the nation.

Chester Ndoro, administrator of the Supreme Court of Zimbabwe, in a statement issued to the press on the constitution day said that the socialist Constitution of the DPRK is the most popular one that fully embodies the great *chuche* idea founded by Comrade Kim Il-song and steadfastly defends the interests of the entire people by law.

He expressed the firm belief that the Korean people who have the Constitution of *chuche* would make Korean-style socialism centering on the popular masses shine all over the world, united around the party and the leader in one mind.

'World Public' Supports Reunification Effort

*SK2912041793 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0407
GMT 29 Dec 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, December 28 (KCNA)—The world public voices support to the Korean people's struggle to reunify the Korean peninsula and defend the sovereignty of the country.

The Finnish National Committee for the Study of the *Chuche* Idea issued a statement December 11 expressing full support to the confederation formula for reunification based on one nation, one state, two systems and two governments and the 10-point programme of the great unity of the whole nation advanced by President Kim Il-song.

The statement stressed that the resolution of the 30th session of the U.N. General Assembly on dissolving the "U.N. Forces Command" must be implemented without delay and the name of the United Nations must no longer be abused on the Korean peninsula.

It demanded that all foreign troops withdraw from South Korea without delay, taking along nuclear and all other lethal weapons, that U.S.-South Korea joint military maneuvers be stopped and that the concrete wall be dismantled immediately.

Susan Bailey, co-chairperson of the U.S. Get Out of Korea Committee, in an article in the U.S. paper **WORKERS WORLD** December 16 disclosed that the aim of the blatant U.S. threat to the DPRK is to stifle the socialist system of Korea and keep South Korea as a forward base for U.S. interests in Asia.

She stressed that the U.S. nuclear weapons and troops must be withdrawn from South Korea and then their withdrawal must be verified.

Japanese critic Koroji Kawahara in an article in **Shinano MAINICHI SHIMBUN** said it is because of the lack of true enthusiasm for reunification that the Kim Yong-sam "government" refuses dialogue on the pretext of "nuclear development" of the North.

Ex-Premier Addresses Rally in Chagang Province *SK3012041593*

[Editorial Report] Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean at 1100 GMT on 29 December carries a 10 minute-long report on mass rallies held at Chagang Province and South Hwanghae Province to implement the decision of the 21st Plenary Session of the Sixth Central Committee of the Workers Party of Korea [WPK]. The date and place are not given.

The report is followed by a 4 minute-long recorded portion of a speech by "Comrade Yon Hyong-muk, alternate member of the WPK Central Committee Political Bureau, responsible secretary of Chagang provincial party committee, and chairman of the Chagang Provincial People's Committee," at Chagang Province's mass rally.

In his speech, Yon Hyong-muk, remarks on the significance of the plenary session and says that "the struggle of our party and people to implement the Third Seven-Year Plan was waged at a time when the international situation was unprecedentedly complicated and acute. To cope with this situation created in our country, our party presented a policy of adjusting the pace of economic growth envisaged in the Third Seven-Year Plan, further perfecting economic structures, and also changing the direction of external economic relations development."

Noting the economic achievements attained by the province during the period of the Third Seven-Year Plan, he continued that "with the accomplishment of the Third Seven-Year Plan, the political, economic, and military might of the country has been further strengthened, and Chagang Province has emerged as a province with developed industries and agriculture," adding that "today we are faced with the honorable task of strengthening the might of socialism and enhancing its superiority by more vigorously accelerating socialist economic construction while consolidating the successes attained in the fulfillment of the Third Seven-Year Plan."

Yon Hyong-muk's speech is followed by debates between three rally participants, including chairman of the Chagang Provincial Rural Economy Committee.

The report then describes the mass rally of South Hwanghae Province. The report quotes Paek Pom-su, responsible secretary of South Hwanghae provincial party committee and chairman of the South Hwanghae Provincial People's Committee, as he notes South Hwanghae Province's need to establish measures in achieving the goals set in the agricultural, light industry, and trade fields in the upcoming two to three year period of readjustment.

The report then notes that debates were conducted by rally participants.

Mass Rallies Held To Implement Party Decision *SK2912134993*

[Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of mass rallies held throughout the DPRK to implement the decision made at the 8 December 21st Plenary Session of the Sixth Central Committee of the Workers Party of Korea (WPK).

Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean at 0800 GMT on 20 December carries a 17-minute report of a mass rally of South Pyongan Province held on 19 December at the Pyongsong plaza to implement the decision of the 21st Plenary Session of the Sixth WPK Central Committee.

The report says that "the mass rally was attended by Comrade So Yun-sok, member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee, responsible secretary of South Pyongan provincial party committee, and chairman of the South Pyongan Provincial People's Committee; Kim Man-song, chairman of the South Pyongan Provincial Administrative and Economic Committee; responsible functionaries from local party, government, administrative and economic organs; responsible functionaries from local public organizations; and the working people in the province."

The report is followed by a 6-minute recorded portion of a speech by So Yun-sok, in which he notes the significance of the plenary session and says: "As indicated in the plenary session, the struggle of our party and people to implement the Third Seven-Year Plan was carried out under an unprecedentedly complicated and acute situation. Our revolution's international circumstances, which have rapidly changed due to grave international events and the collapse of the world's socialist markets, have created great barriers and difficulties in the construction of our socialist economy. Our party, based on its deep insight into the changed international circumstances and the situation that is becoming acute with each passing day, presented to the plenary session a policy of adjusting the pace of economic growth envisaged in the Third Seven-Year Plan, of further perfecting structures of the economy, and of changing the direction

of foreign economic relations." So Yun-sok's speech also notes that "the aggravated maneuvers of aggression by the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique have made it inevitable for us to economically divert many things to national defense purposes."

Noting the economic achievements attained during the Third Seven-Year Plan, So Yun-sok's speech urges the people to thoroughly implement the decision of the plenary session, stressing that all of the economic achievements attained in the period included in the plan were made thanks to the leadership of Kim Il-song and Kim Chong-il.

The report is followed by recorded speeches by the chairman of South Pyongan Provincial Rural Economy Committee and managers of two local enterprises.

Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean at 0100 GMT on 25 December carries a 17 minute-long report on mass rallies held separately in South and North Hamgyong provinces to implement the decision of the 21st Plenary Session of the Sixth WPK Central Committee. The date and place is not given.

The report notes that the mass rallies were attended by "responsible functionaries from local party, government, and administrative and economic organs; responsible functionaries from local public organizations; and the working people."

The report is followed by a 4 minute-recorded portion of a speech by Hyon Chol-kyu, responsible secretary of South Hamgyong provincial party committee and chairman of the South Hamgyong Provincial People's Committee, at South Hamgyong province's mass rally. In the speech, Hyon Chol-kyu stresses the importance of the revolutionary economic strategy presented at the plenary session and urges the agricultural working people in the province to accelerate preparations for next year's farming. The report is then followed by a 3-minute recorded speech by the chairman of the South Hamgyong Provincial Rural Economy Committee and debates by three other participants.

The report is followed by a 4-minute recorded portion of a speech by Yi Kun-mo, responsible secretary of North Hamgyong provincial party committee and chairman of the North Hamgyong Provincial People's committee, at North Hamgyong province's mass rally. In his speech, Yi Kun-mo urges party members and the working people to have the firm position and determination to consummate the socialist cause with their own strength and to more resolutely struggle for the cause.

Noting that the imperialists' and reactionaries' political and military pressure and economic blockade cannot suffocate the people, Yi Kun-mo concludes his speech by saying: "All party members and the working people in the province should staunchly struggle along the single road of loyalty, cherishing the firm faith in certain victory that as long as there is the wise leadership of the

dear comrade leader, the chuche revolutionary cause, socialism, is victorious without fail."

The report is then followed by the debates by the chairman of the North Hamgyong Provincial Rural Economy Committee and three other participants.

Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean at 1100 GMT on 26 December carries a 20-minute report on mass rallies held in North Hwanghae Province and Kaesong city to implement the decision of the 21st Plenary Session of the Sixth WPK Central Committee. No date is mentioned.

The report enumerates the slogans placed in the rally sites, including: "Long live the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song," "Long live the glorious WPK," "Let us all advance toward implementing the decision of the 21st Plenary Session of the Sixth WPK Central Committee," "Let us effect a great upsurge in economic construction in the spirit of adding the speed of the nineties to Chollima," "Let us advance, holding aloft the revolutionary banner of self-reliance, the general line of our party," "Let us thoroughly implement the party's agriculture-first strategic policy, the party's light industry-first strategic policy, the party's trade-first strategic policy," and "Let us live and work in the spirit displayed in the period of the postwar's great Chollima upsurge."

The report notes the rallies were attended by responsible functionaries from local party, government, and administrative and economic organs; responsible functionaries from local public organizations; and the working people.

The report is followed by a 4-minute recorded speech by Choe Mun-son, responsible secretary of North Hwanghae provincial party committee and chairman of the North Hwanghae Provincial People's Committee, at the mass rally of North Hwanghae Province. He talks about vowing to implement the decision of the plenary session.

Noting the significance of the plenary session, Choe Mun-son says: "The struggle of our party and people to implement the Third Seven-Year Plan was waged under an unprecedentedly complicated and acute situation. Our revolution's international circumstances, which have rapidly changed due to grave international events and the collapse of the world's socialist markets, have created great barriers and difficulties in our socialist economic construction. Our party, based on its deep insight into the changed international circumstances and the situation which is becoming acute with each passing day, presented to the plenary session a policy of adjusting the pace of economic growth envisaged in the Third Seven-Year Plan, further perfecting structures of the economy, and changing the direction of external economic relations."

The report then notes speeches by chairman of the North Hwanghae Provincial Rural Economy Committee and three other participants.

The report is followed by a 4 minute-long recorded speech by Yim Su-man, responsible secretary of Kaesong city party committee and chairman of the Kaesong City People's Committee. In his speech, Yim Su-man vows to implement the decision of the plenary session by effecting a new upsurge in economic construction. Yim's speech is followed by debates by the chairman of the Kaesong City Rural Economy committee and other participants.

Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0500 GMT on 27 December carries a 14-minute report on mass rallies held in Yanggang Province and Nampo city to implement the decision of the 21st Plenary Session of the Sixth WPK Central Committee. No date is given.

The report notes the scenes of the rally sites, including slogans placed there, and says the mass rallies were attended by responsible functionaries from local party, government, and administrative and economic organs; responsible functionaries from local public organizations; and the working people.

The report is followed by a speech by Yi Kil-song, responsible secretary of Yanggang provincial party committee and chairman of the Yanggang Provincial People's Committee, at the mass rally of Yanggang Province.

Yi Kil-song's speech notes that "our party, based on its deep insight into the changed international circumstances and the situation which is becoming acute with each passing day, presented to the plenary session a policy of adjusting the pace of economic growth envisaged in the Third Seven-Year Plan, further perfecting structures of the economy, and changing the direction of external economic relations."

Noting the achievements attained in the agricultural, mining industry, and forestry sectors during the Third Seven-Year Plan, Yi Kil-song further states that the country's political, economic, and military might has become stronger through the struggle to implement the plan.

The report then carries a 2 minute-long speech by the chairman of the Yanggang Provincial Rural Economy Committee, followed by debates by three other participants.

The report is followed by a 1-minute recorded portion of a speech by Pak Sung-il, responsible secretary of Nampo city party committee and chairman of the Nampo City People's Committee, followed by debates by the chairman of Nampo City Rural Economy Committee and two other participants.

Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean at 0900 GMT on 27 December carries a 12-minute report on mass rallies held in North Pyongan and Kangwon Provinces to implement the decision of the plenary session of the WPK Central Committee. The date and place are not given.

The report says the mass rallies were attended by responsible functionaries from local party, government, and administrative and economic organs; responsible functionaries from local public organizations; and the working people.

The report notes a 3-minute recorded portion of a speech by (Kim Pyong-hae), secretary of North Pyongan provincial party committee, at the mass rally of North Pyongan Province. The report is followed by debates by five participants, including Pang Ae-son, chairman of North Pyongan Provincial Rural Economy Committee.

Commentary in Daily Exalts People's Faith, Will
SK2912111993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1015
GMT 29 Dec 93

["Korean People's Faith and Will Is Fundamental Source of Exaltation of Korean-Style Socialism"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, December 29 (KCNA)—This year is a proud year in which the faith in the party and the leader, the conviction that Korean-style socialism is invincible, has rooted deep in the minds of our party members and other working people and its might has been powerfully demonstrated to the whole world, says NODONG SINMUN in a by-lined article today.

The article quotes the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il as saying:

"Our people have a firm belief in the justness of and prospects for the cause of socialism which they themselves have chosen and which they have promoted by their own efforts. They are filled with a revolutionary determination to follow the path of socialism to the end under the party's leadership."

It goes on:

This year the Korean people smashed all manner of challenges and obstructive moves of the imperialists and reactionaries, firmly defended the dignity and sovereignty of the country and the nation, effected a great revolutionary upsurge in socialist economic construction and thereby powerfully demonstrated their steadfast faith in socialism, revolutionary conviction and will to carry forward the Korean-style socialism to accomplishment.

The whole country, the entire people and the whole Army rose as one in the struggle to defend the dignity and sovereignty of the Republic in hearty response to the order of our comrade supreme commander and more than 1.5 million youth and students and other working people volunteered to join or rejoin the Korean People's Army at a grim time when a grave danger befell the destiny of the country and world peace.

Not only during the semi-war period but whenever the enemy staged war provocation manoeuvres against the DPRK including "Eagle", "Ssangyong" and "Ulchi

Focus Lens" military exercises all the year round, our people took a decisive and principled attitude and clearly showed the enemy that the singlehearted unity of our people advancing under the uplifted banner of socialism was not an empty word.

Our party published the calls of its Central Committee on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the victory in the fatherland liberation war in order to adorn this anniversary and this year, the significant last year of the fulfilment of the Third Seven-Year Plan, as the most brilliant year in the history of our country and has mobilized the whole party, the whole country and the entire people for a new victory. In hearty response to the party's calls, our people have turned out as one in the struggle to implement the calls of the party Central Committee and fully displayed unexampled mass heroism on all fronts of socialist construction. As a result, the economic and material foundations of the Korean-style socialism centred on the masses have been consolidated still further this year, the last year of the fulfilment of the Third Seven-Year Plan.

This year our people also brought into full bloom unprecedentedly beautiful communist traits based on collectivism, clearly showing their steadfast determination and will to firmly defend and accomplish the socialism of *chuche* with the might of their singlehearted unity.

They could brilliantly adorn this year as a year of the victory of faith, a year of the victory of will, undauntedly pushing through manifold difficulties and trials, as they enjoyed the wise leadership of the party and the leader.

The respected leader Comrade Kim Il-song in his New Year address for 1993 clearly indicated militant tasks facing our party and people and ways to carry them out, and aroused the people for a new victory, ceaselessly giving on-the-spot guidance to North Hamgyong and South Pyongan Provinces, Pyongyang Municipality, South Hwanghae Province and other areas.

Leading the grim struggle this year as in the past, the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il clearly showed once again his personality as an extraordinary thinker, theoretician and statesman, distinguished strategist and illustrious people's leader.

The guidance of the dear leader who led the socialist cause of our own style to a brilliant victory, devoting his body and soul with an iron will, matchless grit, tested leadership ability and great people's traits, became the conviction of sure victory and will of our people and the fundamental source of the strength that made it possible to glorify this year with heroic feats.

Symposiums Held on Implementing Socialist Cause

SK2912044793 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0429 GMT 29 Dec 93

[Text] Pyongyang, December 29 (KCNA)—Symposiums to deeply study and acquire the idea and theory of the

great leader President Kim Il-song on carrying forward the cause of socialism to accomplishment were held in different domains over December 15-28.

Read at the symposiums were papers proving the profundity, validity, scientific nature and truth of the idea and theory of President Kim Il-song on carrying forward the cause of socialism to accomplishment.

Speakers at the symposiums of party cadres training organs and social science sector said a firm guarantee for the inheritance and accomplishment of the revolutionary cause of *chuche*, the cause of socialism, lies in upholding the guidance of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il with a loyal heart.

They stressed that Comrade Kim Chong-il is not only an outstanding thinker and theoretician but also a great statesman and an ever-victorious military strategist, and a tender-hearted leader of the people who has turned the whole society into one big family by shaping a policy of love and trust.

Speakers at the symposium of the educational sector said that the idea and theory of the great leader on carrying forward the cause of socialism to accomplishment serves as an ideological and theoretical weapon to rear the younger generation to be true loyal subjects and devoted filial sons and daughters, upholding the guidance of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il with loyalty.

They stressed that it is a great pride of the Korean people to have the young people of the new generation who has noble ideological and mental traits of being loyal to the party and the revolution and devoting their all to the society and the collective and this firmly guarantees the future of the Korean revolution.

Speakers at the symposium of the literature and art sector emphasized the need to further develop literature and art into one truly contributing to the accomplishment of the revolutionary cause of *chuche* and serving to imbue the whole society with the revolutionary idea of dear Comrade Kim Chong-il, upholding the guidance of the illustrious leader with loyalty.

Speakers at the symposium of the press sector noted that Comrade Kim Chong-il has lighted the path of the *chuche*-based news media and wisely guided them so that the media of our party can serve as a powerful ideological and theoretical weapon contributing to the accomplishment of the cause of socialism.

Films With 'High Ideological' Value Described

SK2912044593 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0419 GMT 29 Dec 93

[Text] Pyongyang, December 28 (KCNA)—Many films of high ideological and artistic value were released in Korea this year.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il said:

"...Various films should be made in large number to educate the working people."

What is noteworthy in the films produced this year is parts 11-16 of the multi-part feature film "The Nation and Destiny", a masterpiece of world standard.

Parts 11, 12 and 13 of the film portrays the unconverted long-term prisoner, Yi In-mo, a former war correspondent of the Korean People's Army. Through the characterization of the hero Yi Chong-mo, an indomitable fighter and incarnation of faith and will, who exalted his life by fighting like an immortal against all manner of tortures, appeasement and allurements of the South Korean fascist henchmen in prison for long 34 years, a half of his life, the movie impressively shows that the faith and will of a revolutionary trained by the Workers' Party of Korea cannot be broken with anything and only when one firmly defends the principle of a revolutionary can he be everlasting as the son of the party, the son of the motherland.

Parts 14, 15 and 16 of the film portraying the destiny of Yun Sang-min, a talented musician produced by the Korean nation, describes his active efforts to bring to a success a pan-national reunification musical festival by repulsing all manner of appeasement and deception of the South Korean fascist ruling quarters.

Well-known people's actors Chong Un-mo and So Kyong-sop play the title roles, truly and vividly representing the heroes. These films have been listed as distinguished hits for their rich ideological and artistic value and tested direction.

Part 6 "Whirlwind in Stillness" and part 7 "Why is the Maple Leaf Scarlet" of the multi-part feature film "The Red Maple Leaf" and feature films "An Unattached Unit", "Those Whom we Met on the Bank of River Taedong" (parts 1 and 2) and "An Urban Girl Married to a Village Man" are typical works which contributed to enriching the treasure house of cinematic art this year.

"An Unattached Unit" is highly appreciated as a successful work which has broken a new ground in the production of films of military theme, which successfully reflects the demand of the times and the Army-people relations.

It shows the noble spiritual world of People's Army soldiers and people from different units and posts. While marching to the rear they learn that enemy's paratroopers and tanks were plotting an attack on frontline units of our Army from behind and voluntarily form a unit and lay down their lives in a battle against the enemy, defending every inch of the soil of the motherland.

"Those Whom we Met on the Bank of River Taedong" depicts the advantages of the socialist system under which the whole country is one large harmonious family through an amusing story on the bank of River Taedong.

It vividly shows the beautiful looks of those who think of others first before thinking of themselves and devote themselves to others.

Beside, various feature films of big cognitional and educational value were released, presenting the appearance of young people who are stoutly succeeding the revolution in the new generation and the demand of the times in the 90s in which communistic beautiful traits are fully displayed.

The Korean documentary film studio and the Korean scientific and educational film studio also made scores of films this year.

Typical among them are the documentary films "Dedicating Youth of Hot Blood," "Invincible Revolutionary Armed Forces", "The Incarnation of Faith and Will", "Warm Feelings of Kinship" and "The Three Revolution Exhibition". Noteworthy is the production of a good number of juvenile films such as "Fruit Growing of the Raccoon Dog" and "Strength Contest", sequels of "A Clever Raccoon Dog", part 33 "Unfinished Fight", part 34 "Urgent Report From Unggo" and part 35 "A Military Order", sequels of "The Young General", and "The Ousted Fox" and "Bell Not Rung" which are popular among the children worldwide.

Official Says Farming Not Dependent on Rain

*SK2912112693 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1041
GMT 29 Dec 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, December 29 (KCNA)—Sufficient water supply in farming seasons was one of the factors of the rare bumper crop reaped this year despite an unfavorable weather according to Kim Song-kap, director of the Irrigation Bureau of the State Commission of Agriculture.

He told KCNA that Korea does not depend on rain in farming.

In the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, farming is done securely, not affected by whatever long spell of drought, irrigation networks covering all paddy and nonpaddy fields with successful grand nature remaking projects funded by the state.

The great leader President Kim Il-song said:

"With the completion of irrigation development, the problem of water was completely solved, this having been the ardent desire of our peasants for thousands of years, and our country became a 'land of irrigation' where irrigation water flowed over all parts of the countryside."

President Kim Il-song, saying that water is of key importance in farming, unfolded a blueprint for completely solving the problem of water and mobilized the whole party, the whole country and the entire people in its solution.

Under his wise leadership, vigorous efforts were made to round off the already built irrigation system of agriculture on a higher level.

Following the successful construction of the west sea barrage capable of storing billions of tons of water, canals extending 800 kilometre including the West Sea Barrage-Sinchon-Kangyon-Ongjin waterway, the West Sea Barrage-Changsu Lake reverse waterway, the West Sea Barrage-Onchon waterway, the Yesong River-Yonbaek plain waterway, the Nam River-Miru plain waterway and the Taechon power stations-Unjon-Chongju-Kwaksan waterway were built in the Third Seven-year Plan period (1987-1993), to link the Taedong and Yesong, Amnok and Taeryong Rivers in a large circular irrigation network.

With the completion of the canals, water began flow into all paddy and nonpaddy fields in North and South Hwanghae Provinces, Pyongyang and North and South Pyongan Provinces, granaries in the west of Korea, and reclaimed tideland.

In the period of the plan, waterways with a total length of 10,400 kilometres including the aforesaid 800 kilometres of canals, over 12,400 pumping stations, 192 reservoirs and 16,000 underground water setups were built. As a result, an overall irrigation system has been established.

A dependable irrigation system had been built in Korea.

Irrigation networks including the Pyongnam, Kiyang, Amnok River and Ochidon irrigation setups had been built across the country bringing the total length to more than 40,000 kilometres. And over 1,700 reservoirs including Yonphung, Taesong, Sohung, Unpha, Manpung and Supung Lakes had been built with a storage capacity of 302,000 chongmi (one chongmi is 10,000 cubic meters). Some 25,800 pumping stations play a big role in the irrigation system of Korea.

President Kim Il-song in his theses on the socialist rural question in 1964 advanced a task to consolidate and expand the achievements in irrigation. As of the end of the 1960s, the proportion of fully irrigated paddy fields had grown to 98 percent as against 30 percent in 1944 before the liberation of the country. And more than a million hectares of fields were under irrigation in 1981. Drainage facilities were built for 100,000 hectares of paddy fields in two years after 1967. ☐

In Korea, the major irrigation networks are interlinked in a circular way. The forms of irrigation are diverse according to geographical conditions, they include pumping, sprinkling and furrow irrigation. The irrigation system covers all fields from plains up to mountainous areas.

Grain output is on a yearly increase in the DPRK where irrigation has been completed.

South Korea

Foreign Minister on Third Round U.S.-DPRK Talks

SK3012014193 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 30 Dec 93 p 2

[Text] Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu said on 29 December that if the third round of North Korea-U.S. high-level talks are held, extensive discussions will likely be held on such issues as economic cooperation with the North and the improvement of relations between North Korea and the United States. Foreign Minister Han said that the ROK is exploring cooperation with various channels such as the United States, China, Russia, and the United Nations so that North Korea may accept the 22 December ROK-U.S. proposal for the solution of the problem.

Radio Reports U.S.-DPRK Contact Held 29 Dec

SK2912235993 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 2300 GMT 29 Dec 93

[Text] The U.S.-North Korea working-level contact was held again today in New York. In today's working-level contact, which is the fifth this month, details of the two sides' pending issues including the schedule of the U.S.-North Korea high-level talks in relation to North Korea's overall nuclear inspection [chonmyon haek sachal] were negotiated but both sides again failed to reach any agreement.

The following is a report by correspondent Mun Chae-chol from Washington:

[Begin Mun recording] As a result of today's U.S.-North Korea unofficial working-level contact, which is the last this year and the fifth this month, North Korea's nuclear inspection issue will be carried forward to next year as the United States and North Korea decided to continue the negotiations without any significant agreement.

According to Washington sources today, it is known that no conclusion has been made in today's U.S.-North Korea working-level contact. The sources admitted that there were disagreements between the two sides. According to the sources, it is unknown at present when the next U.S.-North Korea working-level contact will be held again, and what was the concrete cause for the failure of today's contact.

North Korea was expected to express its position to accept overall inspection [chonmyon sachal] on nuclear facilities in Yongbyon in today's contact, however, it is observed that the contact failed to reach any agreement because the North Korean side opposed that the exchange of special envoys between South and North Korea should precede the third-round high-level talks. [end recording]

YONHAP on Contents of Talks

*SK3012021893 Seoul YONHAP in English 0211 GMT
30 Dec 93*

[Text] Washington, Dec. 29 (YONHAP)—Washington and Pyongyang fell short of complete agreement on the North Korean nuclear issue in an unofficial working-level meeting in New York on Wednesday, with North Korea refusing full international inspections of its seven declared nuclear sites in Yongbyon though it had earlier indicated it was nearing acceptance.

The two sides will hold one or two more working-level meetings in New York early next year to discuss the conditions and methods of full international inspection of the Yongbyon nuclear facilities, sources told YONHAP Wednesday.

Emerging from the meeting, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for East Asia and the Pacific Tom Hubbard, suggesting less than complete agreement, said that talks would continue.

State Department Spokesman David Johnson said there had been progress but refused to elaborate.

Highly-placed diplomatic sources said there was progress in negotiations on the basic direction of solving the nuclear issue but there remained problems over conditions and methods of full inspection that the two countries must settle.

The working-level U.S.-North Korea talks will continue into next year, and North Korea and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) will not discuss details of full IAEA inspections of North Korea's seven declared nuclear sites until the close of the talks in New York.

In the previous meeting, on Dec. 22, the U.S. side offered to announce plans for a third round of high-level talks with North Korea and to suspend the joint South Korea-U.S. military exercise "Team Spirit" if North Korea allows IAEA inspectors into Pyongyang for full inspections of its nuclear facilities and resumed dialogue with South Korea.

In Wednesday's meeting, the North Korean side made a statement suggesting that the IAEA has no right to inspect two sensitive sites in Yongbyon, a reactor and a nuclear fuel reprocessing facility, contrary to expectations that it would accept Dec. 22 offer.

The sources predict that because the working-level U.S.-North Korea talks will continue into next year, the third round of high-level talks and full IAEA inspections of North Korea's nuclear facilities will take place after January at the earliest.

Foreign Ministry Officials Cited

*SK3012022693 Seoul YONHAP in English 0216 GMT
30 Dec 93*

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 30 (YONHAP)—There is no final agreement, but progress in North Korea-U.S. dialogue in New York is rapid, Foreign Ministry officials said Thursday.

Differences concerned details of International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) inspections of declared sites and North Korea did not make an issue of the demand for resumption of inter-Korean nuclear negotiations, according to the officials.

One of them predicted that South and North Korea would exchange presidential envoys before the next round of high-level talks between Pyongyang and Washington.

At the heart of the problem is the inspection issue, with the two sides wrangling over the nature and scope of IAEA activities once inspectors enter North Korea, the officials said.

Pyongyang insists that it has not fully re-entered the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT) and will allow inspections not as an obligation but out of "good will." To prove that it is not obliged to allow IAEA inspections, North Korea is denying full access to two critical nuclear facilities.

The IAEA and the United States worry that unless North Korea acknowledges the inspections as obligations, continuity of the safeguards are not guaranteed and Pyongyang can always back out later.

Sources said Seoul and Washington may settle for practical benefits for now, meaning that they want an inspection as close to fullscope as possible without insisting on the acknowledgement it is an obligation.

The ministry officials said North Korea and the United States will need more talks to settle this and other minor details.

IAEA Says No Word From Pyongyang on Inspections

*SK2912115793 Seoul YONHAP in English 1150 GMT
29 Dec 93*

[Text] Berlin, Dec. 29 (YONHAP)—The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has yet to receive any notice from North Korea on its acceptance of IAEA inspections or the resumption of talks with IAEA with respect to its nuclear issues, IAEA spokesman Hans Meyer said on Wednesday.

Though there were many reports on the alleged change of North Korea's posture or its likely acceptance of nuclear

inspections reportedly revealed during the recent U.S.-North Korea working-level talks in New York, there has been no North Korean message received by IAEA in this regard thus far, Meyer said.

The spokesman said, however, that IAEA staff are on standby so that they could take prompt actions once a message for talks comes from Pyongyang.

The IAEA maintains the basic position that once North Korea proposes negotiations or accepts unlimited inspections, IAEA would accommodate it at any time without conditions, spokesman Meyer said.

Government Stance on U.S.-DPRK Talks Reaffirmed

SK3012024193 Seoul YONHAP in English 0231 GMT 30 Dec 93

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 30 (YONHAP)—South Korea's position that a third high-level Pyongyang-Washington meeting can take place only after North Korea accepts full-scope inspection by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and inter-Korean exchange of special envoys was confirmed Thursday by Prime Minister Yi Hoe-chang, presiding over his first high-level strategic meeting since the cabinet reshuffle.

The meeting reaffirmed the preconditions for another round of Pyongyang-Washington high-level talks and agreed that if it takes place Seoul will resume inter-Korean economic cooperation.

According to reports from Washington, Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu reported to the meeting, North Korea is not particularly opposed to an exchange of envoys but has attached conditions to the scope and method of IAEA inspection.

Deputy Prime Minister and National Unification Minister Yi Yong-tok, Defense Minister Yi Pong-tae, National Security Planning Agency Director Kim Tok, and Chief Presidential Secretary Pak Kwan-yong also attended the meeting.

Envoy Exchange Said Possible in 1994

SK3012122293 Seoul YONHAP in English 1157 GMT 30 Dec 93

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 30 (YONHAP)—The Seoul government believes that as a result of the recent series of working-level U.S.-North Korea contacts in New York, the two Koreas may be able to exchange special envoys early next year.

A high-level strategy meeting on Thursday drew the conclusion that through their New York contacts the United States and North Korea have neared an agreement on nuclear inspections and their third-round high-level talks to a substantial extent.

The meeting, chaired by Prime Minister Yi Hoe-chang, took place at Yi's official residence at Samchong-tong.

"The United States and North Korea are yet to arrive at a complete agreement, but their positions neared an accord to a substantial extent," Vice Unification Minister Song Yong-tae said after the meeting.

Another government official said there is the possibility that the United States and North Korea will have another contact in New York early next month to adopt a package agreement.

"When an IAEA [International Atomic Energy Agency] inspection team arrives in the Yongbyon area under the package agreement, a simultaneous announcement could be made in Seoul, Pyongyang and New York on the exchange of special envoys between the two Koreas, suspension of the Team Spirit exercise and the holding of third-round U.S.-North Korea talks," the official said.

Attendees to the strategy meeting included, besides Premier Yi, Deputy Prime Minister and Unification Minister Yi Yong-tok, Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu, Defense Minister Yi Pong-tae, and Agency for National Security Planning Director Kim Tok.

U.S. Said 'in Disarray' Over DPRK Policy

SK3012141393 Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean 30 Dec 93 p 3

[Article by Washington-based correspondent Chong Il-hwa: "U.S. Government in Disarray Over the Ways To Check North Korean Nuclear Development"]

[Text] At a 22 December news conference in Los Angeles, U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher defended the State Department's policy on North Korea. His external appearance was resolute but one could well read loneliness on his face. While the secretary of defense and the Central Intelligence Agency strongly suggested the possibility that the North Koreans possess nuclear weapons, the State Department has fallen into an odd position because it spent nearly all 1993 engaging in dialogue and negotiations with little success and now has to put off the North Korean nuclear issue until next year.

Secretary Christopher is hard-pressed on two points for an answer in connection with his policy toward North Korea, and his news conference on 22 December had something to do with it.

The first point is that the State Department, different from the Defense Department and the CIA, is said to not be dealing seriously with the possibility that the North Koreans may possess nuclear weapons. The assertion that North Korea has nuclear weapons has been made on a number of occasions by some senior U.S. Government officials and experts on North Korea. On 12 December, Defense Secretary Aspin said that "it is highly likely that North Korea has a nuclear bomb of a conventional type." THE NEW YORK TIMES quoted a secret CIA report on 25 December saying that the CIA thinks North Korea already has one or two nuclear bombs, and said that this report was submitted to President Clinton.

These reports gave a strong enough impression to make one regard as a fact that North Korea possesses nuclear weapons. However, the State Department, without referring to this, only keeps stressing "the diplomatic efforts to prevent North Korea from having nuclear weapons."

The second point is the question raised as to the results obtained from the diplomatic negotiations with North Korea, which the State Department has conducted with patience since last March. Former Defense Secretary Weinberger and former White House national security aide Richard Allen, attending the seminar on the North Korean nuclear issue hosted by the Heritage Foundation last week, said that conducting diplomatic negotiations with North Korea was a mistake from the beginning. They asserted that a tough stance, such as an economic embargo or naval blockade, should have been taken against North Korea from the outset.

Responding to this question, Secretary Christopher said that the United States has continued negotiations with North Korea because it believes North Korea has no nuclear weapons yet. He also said that the United States, however, is adding toughness to its negotiations with North Korea because of the danger North Korea's possible possession of nuclear weapons poses. He then said that when the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] declares the discontinuation of inspections of North Korean nuclear facilities, the North Korean issue will inevitably be referred to the United Nations. He stressed that the United States will continue its diplomatic negotiations to the last moment and he justified the continuous U.S. negotiations with North Korea by mentioning the IAEA. His diplomatic remarks were worthy of his title as secretary of state.

The U.S. State Department, however, made no remarkable progress in its negotiations with North Korea this year. Therefore, if it is confirmed that North Korea possesses nuclear weapons, the U.S. diplomacy with North Korea, which did not follow even basic diplomatic principles, will be criticized and characterized as a failure.

The U.S. policy toward North Korea has traditionally abided by several principles. The Clinton government has broken them in its negotiations with North Korea. The first principle of the U.S. diplomacy with North Korea is that Korean peninsula issues are resolved by the parties concerned at the ROK's initiative. It was vain to break up this long-standing principle in order to hold fruitless negotiations for one year. Second, the United States did not refute directly North Korea's frequent threat to "provoke a war against the ROK" in the past. North Korea has no right to provoke a war against the ROK, and North Korea's inability to have nuclear weapons has no relation to its will for southward invasion. The United States, however, has responded to North Korea's threat that it "will provoke a war when sanctions are applied against it" by saying that "a war must be prevented," thus encouraging North Korea's spirit. Third, the United States ignored the proliferation

of democracy, which has been a traditional value in U.S. diplomacy, as it adhered only to the nuclear issue in its diplomacy with North Korea. As a result, the extremely weird infringement of human rights in North Korea and its dictatorship have been guarded indirectly rather than denounced. How the U.S. State Department will deal with its criticism and will tide over the current difficulty in its diplomacy with North Korea in the new year will be in the public eye.

Daily Says U.S. Policy on DPRK 'Inconsistent'

SK2912053593 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 29 Dec 93 p 7

[Article by Washington-based correspondent Chong Hae-yong: "Inconsistent U.S. Policy on North Korean Nuclear Issue"]

[Text] The Clinton administration's policy on the North Korean nuclear issue as viewed by a foreigner can barely be described. One even gets the impression that this policy has been influenced on too many occasions by hardline and moderate factions.

The analyses of the White House, the Department of State, the Department of Defense, and the Central Intelligence Agency all differ from each other. Up until the ROK-U.S. summit in November, the United States favored the carrot-and-stick approach to solving the North Korean nuclear problem.

A policy of appeasement referred to as the "comprehensive approach" was put forward, reflecting the State Department position. This policy envisaged partial acceptance of the "package deal" plan proposed by the North Korean side, cancellation of the Team Spirit exercise upon North Korea's acceptance of nuclear inspection, and assurance of economic assistance and improvement in relations.

With the adoption of the "thorough and broad approach" at the ROK-U.S. summit, however, the policy began becoming hardline. Of late, a trend of depending more on diplomatic measures has appeared again. Thus, one gets the impression that the U.S. policy toward the North Korean nuclear issue changes frequently. One may think that these changes are related to changes in the North Korean attitude, but it was probably prompted by confrontation and differences in views between offices of the U.S. Administration and between hardline and moderate factions of each office.

On 26 December, THE NEW YORK TIMES reported that major intelligence organizations including the CIA assessed that North Korea had already developed one or two nuclear bombs in the "National Intelligence Evaluation [NIE]" submitted to President Clinton. Prior to this, the SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST published a similar report. Widely publicizing the possibility for North Korea's nuclear bomb development on its frontpage, THE NEW YORK TIMES even noted that it

would be difficult for the United States to make North Korea give up nuclear development.

The CIA, the Defense Intelligence Agency, and National Security Agency have not withdrawn the possibility of North Korea possessing nuclear capabilities. They assessed that the efforts of the Clinton Administration to make North Korea accept nuclear inspection would end in failure. The Intelligence Investigation Bureau under the State Department contradicted this view. Considering the fact that the U.S. side's delegates to the New York working-level contact are Thomas Hubbard, deputy assistant secretary of state for East Asian and Pacific affairs, and Quinones, who is in charge of North Korean affairs, the New York contact will move according to the State Department's position. However, there are many organizations within the Clinton administration that are applying the brakes on such an appeasement policy. The Defense Department, which represents the voices of the military, generally stands on the hardliners' side.

As for the press, THE NEW YORK TIMES consistently carried articles and columns reflecting the appeasement position of calling for a solution to the North Korean nuclear issue through diplomatic steps. Meanwhile, the WASHINGTON POST, the WALL STREET JOURNAL, and the like, showed its support for hardline measures like sanctions. Of former U.S. ambassadors to the ROK, Donald Gregg supported a moderate theory while James Lilley was inclined toward a hardline stance. Even voices of civilian research organizations differ from one another—the Heritage Foundation assumes a relatively hardline position while the Carnegie Foundation takes a moderate line.

Up to the present, the Clinton administration used the carrot approach more than the stick. When North Korea did not appear sincere, however, the United States made hardline remarks. Before long, it again assumed a dialogue position for dialogue, and the voice of moderates grew louder. Meanwhile, THE NEW YORK TIMES, which had consistently maintained a moderatist stance, began to largely publicize the analysis of hardline intelligence organizations, thus prompting speculation that this paper had assumed a hardline stance. The United States, from the beginning, has not attached great importance to the visit of UN Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali to North and South Korea, Japan, and China. Therefore, the United States will not be affected by the results of his visit.

In the event that President Clinton judges that North Korea has already manufactured nuclear bombs, a basic revision of U.S. policy on North Korea's nuclear issue will become inevitable. Otherwise, President Clinton's official pledge that the United States will not tolerate North Korea's nuclear development would become void. As the U.S. State Department, the official channel for nuclear negotiations with North Korea, still maintains that even if North Korea is developing nuclear weapons,

it is not a matter of great concern, no immediate changes in policy will likely be made.

The NIE, prepared chiefly by the CIA, is said to be an authoritative report. Therefore, the overall atmosphere of the U.S. Administration may change according to the significance President Clinton places upon it. Some people observed that Clinton has had internal difficulties finalizing the direction of policies following the criticism of Mr. Inman, the new Defense Secretary appointed by President Clinton, for avoiding payment of social security tax. As a result, it is likely that, for the time being, President Clinton will direct efforts to make a breakthrough at the New York contact according to the pace set by the State Department.

Nevertheless, the Clinton Administration's policy on the North Korean nuclear issue may change according to the North Korean side's countermeasures at any time. Such a policy would vary according to developments in the situation, fluctuating between a moderate and hardline stance or attaching importance to only one side. However, if the U.S. Administration definitely judges that the possibility of North Korea's possession of nuclear bombs is high, it would have no other choice but to advance towards a hardline stance. People are paying great attention to the position the United States will reveal and what reaction North Korea will show during what is expected to become the last working-level contact for this year in New York.

Article Analyzes DPRK's Politics, Economy

*SK2912034493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0312 GMT
29 Dec 93*

[By Kim Tae-yong: "1994 To Be Crisis Year for Survival of North Korea"]

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 29 (YONHAP)—Hardline North Korea's unique brand of communism survived 1993 intact despite the collapse of the Soviet Union and East bloc and the arrival of a new world order.

The rigidly Stalinist state further isolated itself from the international community and its economic deterioration gathered pace, but the system continued. Most experts agree that unification of Korea depends on how the North changes internally, but none of them knows what the future holds.

Some experts say that the North Korean system will collapse by itself due to economic difficulties and the weakness of Stalinism, following the examples of the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe.

Others insist, however, that North Korea will maintain its system even after "great leader" Kim Il-song dies, noting that Pyongyang was little affected by the collapse of communism since the early 1980s thanks to its unique structure.

North Korea is facing both internal and international crises because of its unprecedented economic difficulties and insistence on blocking full-fledged nuclear inspection by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). The most reliable data of the Bank of Korea for the North Korean economy shows minus 3.7 percent growth in 1990, minus 5.2 percent in 1991, minus 7.9 percent last year and projected minus 11 percent growth in 1993. The bank blames structural weakness and says that the economy will deteriorate more rapidly as time goes by.

Experts say the economy cannot be revitalized without outside help, and the people are getting more and more dissatisfied with the North Korean economic and political system. North Korea's economic difficulties will inevitably lead to the collapse of its system, they say.

Facing the worst situation, the Central Committee of the Workers' (Communist) Party, at a meeting in early December, had to admit economic failure and announced that North Korea could not achieve the goal of the Third Seven-Year Plan (1987-93).

Another factor to affect the future of the North Korean system is Kim's health. The 82-year-old "great leader" has ruled the North for nearly half a century and is expected to relinquish all responsibility step by step in the not-too-distant future due to senility. Some say that Kim recently had an examination that revealed the longest he can live is one or two years. But others say that the system will not easily collapse after his death because Kim Chong-il, first son and heir apparent, has been consolidating the base of his power for more than 20 years. However, it is still possible for his power to be challenged by the military after Kim dies, or the economic or military pressure of the international community caused by the North Korean nuclear problem to threaten the system.

Nobody knows what would happen if the military took power. Experts guess that the military will move either left or right, toward either openness and democracy or an even harder Stalinist line. It depends what military faction seizes power. If young technocrats take control, they will probably forge ahead with openness like Russia and China and study ways to unite with South Korea. But if conservatives grasp power, inter-Korean relations will worsen because North Korean leaders will certainly be reluctant to rapprochement with Seoul for fear that openness would let in information and undermine their control.

Still the most plausible scenario is that Kim Chong-il will take power when his father dies because he completed preparations for succession in the 1990s. North Korea decided Kim Chong-il as successor to Kim Il-song in 1974 and officially designated him as successor at the sixth party convention in October 1980. Kim junior assumed the posts of supreme commander of the military in December 1991 and chairman of the National Defense Committee in April 1993 and now holds the real power in the military.

According to experts, recent moves in North Korea's leadership show that the succession of Kim Chong-il has been completed.

Kim Yong-chu, younger brother of Kim Il-song and a rival for the crown about 20 years ago, was recently reinstated. He disappeared from the official political scene 18 years ago, after Kim Chong-il was decided as successor, but showed up on July 26 this year at the unveiling ceremony of the victory commemorative tower. He was made a Politburo member again at the party's Central Committee meeting on Dec. 8 and was appointed as vice president three days later.

Kim Song-ae, Kim Il-song's second wife and Kim Chong-il's stepmother, also disappeared from the political scene after having trouble with Kim Chong-il on the problem of succession more than 10 years ago. Experts say that now that Kim Chong-il's succession has been solidified and he has no more competitors, Kim Il-song will tolerate and reinstate them to make peace with each other and help Kim junior take power smoothly.

North Korean radio and newspapers call Kim Chong-il "father of the nation" or "affectionate mentor," trying to make an idol of him as his father has been made an idol. When Kim Chong-il takes supreme power, North Korea is expected to choose openness, although it will be a very slow openness, experts are saying.

Now North Korea is insisting the best unification method is the Korea confederal system, where the two Koreas have one nation but two systems and two governments, in order to maintain its system even after unification. North Korea is also thinking that its system will more easily survive Kim Il-song's death if North Korea establishes diplomatic relations with the United States, observers here say.

North Korea is directly negotiating with the United States on its nuclear problem in efforts to maintain the system. It simultaneously joined the United Nations with South Korea in 1991 and adopted the South-North basic agreement, which damages its "one Korea" policy and admits "two Koreas," for the same purpose.

North Korea had to choose coexistence with South Korea to survive international isolation and economic difficulties as well as its economic gap with South Korea, which has economic power 12 times bigger than that of North Korea, according to the Bank of Korea, and degeneration of friendly relations with past allies like China and Russia. After all, since North Korea, facing a crisis that threatens its system, is concentrating its policies on survival, it cannot afford to consider ways for unification of the Korean peninsula. Many experts say full-fledged discussion on unification will be possible only after North Korea feels it has passed through a serious crisis.

Moscow Says DPRK Should Abide by IAEA Pact
SK3012074493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0626 GMT
30 Dec 93

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 30 (YONHAP)—Russian Vice Foreign Minister Georgiy Kunadze, ambassador designate to South Korea, said Wednesday that North Korea should abide by every provision of its agreement with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

Moscow is absolutely opposed to the presence of nuclear weapons on the Korean peninsula, radio Moscow's Korean-language service, monitored in South Korea by NAEWOE Press, Seoul's official North Korea watcher, quoted Kunadze as saying in an interview.

It was too early for sanctions on North Korea, he said.

To secure nuclear safety on the peninsula, the North Korean nuclear problem should be solved and the inter-Korean non-nuclear declaration should be fulfilled, Kunadze said.

It was in the interest of all nations, including Russia and both Koreas, to denuclearize the Korean peninsula, he said.

To solve the nuclear problem, the international community should examine what additional measures could be taken, but North Korea has not given up dialogue and there is a question mark over whether sanctions will pay off, he said.

"I think it is still too early to impose sanctions on North Korea," he said.

Russia does not stand against the international community any more to support a particular country and Russia's friends and companions must not forget that Russian policy, Kunadze said, suggesting that Russia will participate in international sanctions on North Korea.

Ideological differences are the biggest problem in North Korea-Russia relations and "it is true that Russian relations with North Korea suffer from 'objective difficulties'," radio Moscow quoted Kundaze as saying.

Seoul-Moscow relations will be a positive factor for stability in Northeast Asia and they will "play an affirmative role in coordinating inter-Korean relations," he added.

North Korean Escapee From Siberia Seeks Asylum

SK3012004193 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean
2202 GMT 30 Dec 93

[Text] A North Korean youth who arrived in Pusan via a Russian ship after escaping from the lumber camp in Siberia has asked for asylum. Relevant organizations are investigating him regarding his motive.

After arriving in Ulsan port boarding on the Russian ship a few days ago, the youth, who is known as Kim

Kil-tong and is in his twenties, asked the relevant authority for asylum yesterday [29 December] when the ship was heading for Hanjin Heavy Industry at Yongdo-gu in Pusan for repairs. After making the ship stop at Pusan port, accordingly, the relevant authority received the youth and is now investigating him.

It has been learned that the North Korean youth escaped from a lumber camp in Siberia while working there and, thus, boarded the ship by the introduction of a Russian corporation.

Holds Pusan News Conference

SK3012121093 Seoul YONHAP in English 1137 GMT
30 Dec 93

[Text] Pusan, Dec. 30 (YONHAP)—A North Korean man who escaped a North Korea-run logging yard in Siberia and arrived in South Korea recently, said here on Thursday there are about 10,000 North Korean loggers in Siberia who he said lead "animal-like" lives due to the lack of daily necessities.

Kim Kil-song, 31 of Sinuiju, North Pyong-an Province, told a press conference that lately North Korean loggers are forced to earn rubles by doing household chores at Russian homes or manual work at Russian industries.

"These extra works are at the instructions of Kim Chong-il after logging failed to fetch money due to the lack of transportation means. But, workers have been obliged to contribute up to 90 percent of the money they earn in extra work to North Korea," Kim said.

The defector said he escaped Siberia after he learned his protest over the compulsory contribution was reported to security authorities. He said that after the escape he managed to reach Vladivostok where he could stealthily board a Pusan-bound Russian freighter with the help of a Korean-Chinese there.

Kim said North Korea's head logging office is in Khabarovsk, which he said controls nine field logging yards in Siberia.

Until 1975, prison inmates and those who had just served out their terms were shipped to Siberia, he said, adding that thereafter, however, ordinary people were recruited because prisoners were often involved in troubles.

Kim said that during his military service in North Korea, he personally took part in digging a tunnel near Kaesong which he said was for use in holding nuclear. [sentence as received]

"I heard that they were mining uranium at an uranium mine near Pyongsan County, North Hwanghae Province," he said.

The defector said that also during his active service, Army officers used to boast during lectures, "The United States are afraid of us as we have nuclear arms. We even can reject nuclear inspections."

Russia Offers Military Aid as Loan Repayment

*SK2912060893 Seoul YONHAP in English 0558 GMT
29 Dec 93*

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 29 (YONHAP)—Moscow will send Seoul a list of military equipment and technology for production and joint development to pay back for over 1 billion U.S. dollars in loans, South Korean officials said Wednesday.

Moscow notified the South Korean Embassy last week that it had drawn up a list of items and areas for cooperation with Seoul, according to officials.

Korea promised 3 billion dollars in cash and tied-loans to the Soviet Union, but it halted the aid at 1.47 billion dollars when Russia failed to come up with the interest payments.

Russia says it wants to pay back through other means than cash, such as lower fees for Korean vessels fishing in its waters and the sale of military technology, and is opting for the latter.

Seoul had responded negatively to the offer earlier, saying that Russian arms were incompatible with its military equipment, most of which was purchased from the United States.

This time officials said they will need to see the list first, before determining if a military tieup is possible.

Further on Investigation of Arms Fraud Case

*SK2912084593 Seoul YONHAP in English 0729 GMT
29 Dec 93*

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 29 (YONHAP)—The joint prosecution-military team investigating an arms scam in the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) said Wednesday that Chu Kwang-yong, a local arms broker suspected of being a key player in the swindle, lost 100 million won betting on horse races in June 1991.

It is believed that the money was part of the payment for ammunition that Chu's French business partner, Jean-Rene Fuan, received from the DLA based on forged bills of lading, informed sources said.

Chu's gambling losses were uncovered in a check of his bank accounts, but there is no evidence that Chu, who fled the country when the scam surfaced in mid-December, paid DLA officials.

Investigators say tens of millions of won flowed from Fuan to Chu through bank accounts in the names of third parties in addition to 490,000 U.S. dollars directly remitted to Chu's bank accounts in Seoul, and they will shortly question those people who let Chu use bank accounts opened in their names.

A spokesman said that the investigative team's focus is whether the scam was a conspiracy among Chu, Fuan and DLA officials, and denied news reports that it has

been tentatively concluded that Chu and Fuan acted alone to wind up the investigation quickly.

Neither Chu nor Fuan are in Korea, and investigators are using all the diplomatic channels available to locate them for questioning.

Preliminary Report Released

*SK3012144893 Seoul YONHAP in English 1238 GMT
30 Dec 93*

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 30 (YONHAP)—The joint prosecution-military investigation department looking into the artillery shell fraud has tentatively determined that the incident was the product of a conspiracy between French arms dealer Jean-Rene Fuan and his Korean agent, Chu Kwang-yong.

Releasing a preliminary report on the look into the case on Thursday, the probe team said it found that Fuan and Chu worked together in forging bills of lading and unlawfully withdrew 6.7 million dollars in the price of the artillery shells which they did not ship.

Of the 6.7 million dollars Fuan swindled out of the Defense Logistics Agency, 630,000 dollars were remitted to Chu's bank account.

"In view of the fact that the money Chu received was two to three times as much as the customary rate of commission fees, it is certain the fraud was the joint work of Fuan and Chu," a team official said.

He said no defense logistics agency officials seem involved in the fraud as a look into their bank accounts showed no trace of their receipt of money from the duo.

The joint team also said that the decision to import the artillery shells in question was found to have been lawfully made out of a training need.

"Therefore, we determined that the shell incident was by no means any cover-up project nor is there any special project being promoted through Fuan or Chu," the team said.

The joint investigation department will make public its final report on Jan. 5 after supplementing the finding it has made so far, the official said.

Further on Investigation Into Yulgok Project

Team To Question Ex-Minister Choe

*SK2912123193 Seoul YONHAP in English 1024 GMT
29 Dec 93*

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 29 (YONHAP)—A special Defense Ministry inspection team plans to question former Defense Minister Choe Se-chang over suspected irregularities involved in the purchase of parts of naval craft radioes.

The procurement of vessel radio parts under the Yulgok project is one of the five areas subject to special inspection by the joint special Yulgok inspection group of the Defense Ministry.

A source at the ministry said on Wednesday Choe is under the suspicion that he did not take any action during his days as defense minister though a claim of 112,000 dollars was unsettled after it was raised against the delivery of defective radio parts.

A trade agent, Kyong-il high-tech, headed by Yi Ho-pom, the brother of Choe's wife, was given the contract in November 1990 for the delivery of radio parts worth 191,000 dollars.

Kyong-il was acting for a New York-based Trade Co., Kamtron, run by a Korean-American identified only as Mr. Chi. But, most of the portion delivered in July 1991 turned out defective, prompting the ministry to suspend further payment. Of the 147,000 dollars already paid to the supplier before July 1991, 35,000 dollars were refunded by last September with the remaining 112,000 dollars being yet to be settled. Under the supply contract, Kyong-il and Kamtron are supposed to be held responsible jointly for all acts of the non-fulfilment of contract terms.

Yi Ho-pom claims he himself is the victim because he has never been paid any agency commission by Kamtron. The logistics agency has nevertheless sued Yi for the damage.

Exit Ban on Ex-Minister Kwon Sought

SK3012004493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0027 GMT 30 Dec 93

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 30 (YONHAP)—The Defense Ministry has asked the Justice Ministry to ban Former Defense Minister Kwon Yong-hae from leaving the country in connection with its investigation of irregularities in the Yulgok military buildup project, a senior government official said Thursday.

A special Defense Ministry auditing team is expected to soon start an investigation of Kwon, who was replaced by Yi Pyong-tae in a cabinet reshuffle last week.

Kwon supervised overall operation of the Yulgok project when he was vice defense minister under Defense Minister Choe Sae-chang, whose departure was banned Wednesday. It was unavoidable for the Defense Ministry team to question Kwon, the official said.

The ministry reopened its investigation of irregularities in the Yulgok project after the phony purchase of artillery ammunition was recently discovered.

The ban on Kwon's leaving the country and his questioning were crucial to the investigation, another government official said.

Investigators are expected to concentrate in Kwon's role in projects such as the purchase of naval reconnaissance

planes, a naval strategic command system, work to upgrade the air force's F-4E Phantom fighters, and the purchase of equipment for naval vessels.

There has been persistent suspicion over Kwon's involvement in the Yulgok project since his brother, Kwon Yong-ho, an arms dealer, was found to have received tens of millions of won in bribes.

Defense Minister Yi held a press conference on Tuesday to announce he was reopening the investigation into the Yulgok project.

Justice Ministry Issues Ban

SK3012052593 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0300 GMT 30 Dec 93

[Text] The Justice Ministry today prohibited former Defense Minister Kwon Yong-hae from leaving the country upon the request of the Defense Ministry special audit and inspection team investigating the Yulgok arms procurement project.

Following its steps to prohibit seven persons, including former Defense Minister Choe Se-chang, from leaving the country for their involvement in five projects of the Yulgok arms procurement plan which is now under special investigation, the special Yulgok project audit and inspection team took steps today to prohibit former Defense Minister Kwon Yong-hae, who was vice defense minister under then Defense Minister Choe Se-chang, from leaving the country. Accordingly, the Yulgok project special audit and inspection team asked the Justice Ministry, via the Defense Ministry's Legal Affairs Department, to prohibit former Defense Minister Kwon from leaving the country. Receiving this request and reviewing the relevant papers early this morning, the Justice Ministry prohibited former Defense Minister Kwon Yong-hae from leaving the country.

A senior official from the Yulgok special audit and inspection team said that although no evidence proving fraud or violations of law involving former Defense Minister Kwon Yong-hae have been revealed to date, he has been prohibited from leaving the country because he may serve as a witness because he served as chairman of the Force Improvement Committee while he was vice defense minister.

The Yulgok project special audit and inspection team is expected to summon former Defense Minister Kwon Yong-hae as a witness in the second half of January of next year when the special audit and inspection team will undertake a full-fledged investigation. Former Defense Minister Kwon was vice defense minister from December 1990 to February 1993. He was appointed as defense minister last February and was relieved in the last cabinet reshuffle.

While he was vice defense minister, former Defense Minister Kwon was deeply involved in the Yulgok project as chairman of the Force Improvement Committee.

Ministry To Question Kwon

SK3012074693 Seoul YONHAP in English 0646 GMT
30 Dec 93

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 30 (YONHAP)—A Defense Ministry team looking into suspected irregularities in five procurement projects under the Yulgok force improvement plan will investigate former Defense Minister Kwon Yong-hae in late January, informed sources said Thursday.

Kwon, who served first as vice defense minister and then as defense minister between December 1990 and last week, when he was dropped in a cabinet reshuffle, was barred from leaving the country earlier in the day.

As vice minister, he was chairman of the force improvement committee when it deliberated the procurement of weapons systems and was deeply involved in projects under the Yulgok plan.

Kwon was suspected of being involved in irregularities related to Yulgok projects by the Board of Audit and Inspection when it investigated the projects earlier in the year.

His brother, Kwon Yong-ho, 54, was then said to have received a bribe of 50 million won from an arms broker. The controversy caused Kwon to tender his resignation to President Kim Yong-sam, who returned it.

The sources said that Kwon will be chiefly asked about the purchase of surface-to-surface missiles from France, improvement in K-1 tank sights and development of the navy's next-generation destroyer, as these projects were in full swing when he was vice defense minister.

Daewoo Denies Report on Commission Fees

SK2912123693 Seoul YONHAP in English 1115 GMT
29 Dec 93

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 29 (YONHAP)—Daewoo Corp. on Wednesday afternoon denied the Defense Ministry report earlier in the day that Daewoo is under the suspicion of receiving an excessively large amount of commission fees in the ministry's purchase of P-3C Orion anti-submarine aircraft. In a statement, Daewoo Corp. said there was no backstage dealing whatsoever on the amount of commission fees with Lockheed, the manufacturer of P-3C planes.

"It has already been determined through a Board of Audit and Inspection probe that we have lawfully received 4 million dollars in due commission fees from Lockheed," the statement said.

The ministry said there is the suspicion that Daewoo Corp., agent of Lockheed, had a backstage contract calling for the payment of 29.75 million dollars in commission fees though Daewoo was supposed to receive 4 million dollars under a surface contract.

Two Senior Military Officials Relieved of Posts

SK3012083293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0756 GMT
30 Dec 93

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 30 (YONHAP)—The Defense Ministry on Thursday removed two army lieutenant generals from important positions on the Joint Chiefs of Staff—Lt. Gen. Kim Sang-chun of the Operations Directorate and Lt. Gen. Yi Taek-hyong of the Strategic Plans and Policy Directorate.

Both are former members of Hana-hoe, a now-defunct group of politically oriented Korean Military Academy graduates in the army that was led by former Presidents Chon Tu-hwan and No Tae-u.

Dismissal of the three-star generals had been expected since July, when Maj. Gen. Yi Chung-sok, deputy operations director of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, created controversy with a statement against the government's military reform plan at a party given by the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Lt. Gen. Yi registered his assets at 1.24 billion won in September, when general-grade officers were required by law to make disclosures, emerging as the richest soldier in the army.

Noteworthy is that Defense Minister Yi Pyong-tae took the action against the two former Hana-Hoe members though he himself was once a member of this private club.

The dismissals are said to have paved the way for a large-scale shakeup of high-ranking military officers, expected in connection with the Defense Logistics Agency's phoney ammunition purchase and the ministry's special investigation of defense procurement projects under the Yulgok military modernization plan.

Replacements for the two generals will not be named until the regular personnel change in April, and senior major generals in their directorates will act for them until then.

Hanhwa Chairman Admits Creating Slush Fund

SK3012090193 Seoul YONHAP in English 0749 GMT
30 Dec 93

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 30 (YONHAP)—Kim Sung-yon, chairman of the Hanhwa Business Group, admitted in court Thursday to creating a slush fund for use in his group's efforts to cooperate with foreign companies.

Kim's admission came in the Seoul district criminal court during the first cross-examination by the prosecution and his lawyers.

Kim, arrested Nov. 30, is being tried on charges of violating the foreign exchange control law.

"In an era of internationalization, it is a fact that I raised slush money as part of economic cooperation with foreign firms," he told the court.

"It is solely my responsibility and none of my employees is to blame," Kim said, expressing his regret for having caused trouble for his employees and the people of his country.

Kim, 41, allegedly siphoned some 6.5 million U.S. dollars from the receipts of Pacific Construction Co. when the Hanhwa Group affiliate received an order for construction in Saudi Arabia.

Kim allegedly deposited the money in three or four banks in Hong Kong under false names before transferring it to the United States to purchase a mansion in Los Angeles.

Former DLP Leader Comments on 1992 Elections

*SK3012054793 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
30 Dec 93 p 2*

[From the "Press Pocket" column: "Gripes of Iron Man"]

[Text] Pak Tae-chun, former co-chairman of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] now in self-imposed exile in Japan, assailed former president No Tae-u in an interview recently for urging him to run for the party's presidential candidacy and then abruptly changing his mind and dissuading him from pushing his presidential bid in 1992.

In an interview with the monthly KOREA FORUM on Nov. 19 in Tokyo, Pak, former honorary chairman of the Pohang Iron and Steel Co. (POSCO), claimed that had he pushed his presidential ambitions and run in the presidential election in December 1992, President Kim Yong-sam, the DLP candidate, would have been beaten by his archrival Kim Tae-chung, candidate of the major opposition Democratic Party.

Pak claimed that No suggested he run in the ruling party's presidential nomination in January 1992. He said he confirmed No's will through former National Assembly Speaker Pak Chun-kyu and Cho Nam-pung, then commander of the powerful Defense Security Command.

"I decided to run for the nomination as presidential candidate when I was told that it was President No's wish," Pak was quoted as saying. But when he started his move to get the DLP's presidential nomination, No suddenly put a brake on it through Kim Yun-hwan, chairman of a committee seeking nomination of Kim Yong-sam.

Pak said that he later knew that President No had also encouraged Reps. Yi Chong-chan and Yi Han-tong to run for the party nomination. When Pak protested, No sent Yi Sang-yon, then director of the Agency for

National Security Planning (NSP), to meet him and Yi pressed him to drop out of the race.

As he resisted, according to the former POSCO chairman, No called him in person, using threats to get him to quit the nomination race.

"As you know, I sent you a message through NSP head Yi. If you run, there will be problems with regard to your personal background," Pak quoted No as saying on the phone.

Pak said that disgusted, he felt like bolting from the DLP immediately, but he decided to remain in the party upon urging from his colleagues within the party. He said, "If I had gone the way I wanted, opposition leader Kim Tae-chung would have been elected president instead of Kim Yong-sam. If I had chosen that course at that time, Chong Chu-yong would have made former premier Kang Yong-hun his party's presidential candidate. I think Kang would have been elected president if Kim Tae-chung failed," Pak claimed.

Pak said he again felt insulted by No's sudden departure from the ruling party in November 1992 without consulting him.

Pak insisted that he had not committed any wrongdoing as claimed by the current administration. "I did not embezzle corporate funds from POSCO. I admit that I received political funds from my acquaintances, but I distributed them to my colleagues. I did not pocket the money myself," said Pak, once called the "Iron Man" or "Engineer of the POSCO Myth."

Pak said that he also felt betrayed by his former aides at POSCO who now criticize him to curry favor with members of Kim's reformist group. He said that he has no friends left in Korea, adding that he is now being helped by former Japanese Prime Ministers Kiichi Miyazawa, Yasuhiro Nakasone and Noboru Takeshita, and other friends in Japan.

Meanwhile, No's camp dismissed Pak's allegation as sheer nonsense. An aide to No said, "Something must have gone wrong with his head as he has been forced to stay in Japan too long."

Public Officials Awarded 6.2 Percent Raise

*SK2912060193 Seoul YONHAP in English 0553 GMT
29 Dec 93*

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 29 (YONHAP)—The cabinet decided Wednesday to give public officials a 6.2-percent pay hike in January to raise their morale.

Under an amendment to the regulations on wages and allowances of public officials passed by the cabinet, the basic pay of public officials will be raised a uniform 3 percent and the service allowance, which equals 40 percent of basic pay, will be made part of basic pay. The amendment is subject to the approval of President Kim Yong-sam.

The amendment also repeals a regulation that denies family allowances to married women, enabling them to receive the allowance in case they support their parents or parents-in-law.

The amendment increases the long-service allowance for elementary, middle and high school teachers by a uniform 20,000 won (about 25 U.S. dollars) to 150,000 won to encourage them.

The wage hike will boost President Kim's salary to 3,545,000 won a month and prime minister Yi Hoe-chang's to 2,841,500 won.

Ministers will receive 1,982,000 won and vice minister's 1,774,000 won.

Pay for grade nine public officials, the lowest grade, will rise to 772,000 won a month if they are on the 30th salary step, that is, if they have been grade nine officials for 29 years.

Plans for Partial Privatization by 1998 Stated

*SK2912084893 Seoul YONHAP in English 0747 GMT
29 Dec 93*

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 29 (YONHAP)—The government will fully privatize seven of the 31 state-invested and financed institutions by 1998, partly privatize two, merge three and reshape five.

Of the 102 companies financed by state-invested corporations, 30 will be privatized, shares in 20 will be sold, seven will be merged and two dissolved.

Of the total of 133 state-invested and funded companies and their affiliates, 68 will be privatized or merged and 65 left intact.

The government will decide whether to restructure five major state-financed and invested companies—the Korea Electric Power Corp. (Kepco), Korea Telecom, Korea Highway Corp., Korea Mint Corp. and Pohang Iron and Steel Co. (Posco)—in 1995.

These decisions were made in a meeting called by Deputy Prime Minister Chong Chae-sok, who is also economic planning minister, to draw up a blueprint for privatization and changes in public enterprises Wednesday.

According to the blueprint, Citizens' National Bank, Industrial Bank of Korea and Korea Housing Bank, whose roles as special banks are diminishing, and Korea Exchange Bank, whose shares are mostly owned by the government, will be wholly privatized by 1997.

From next year to 1998, Korea Ginseng and Tobacco Corp., Kukchong Textbook Co. and Korea Gas Corp. will be privatized to raise management efficiency.

Of 10 substructures of Korea Labor Welfare Corp., the government will sell from three to five hospitals and use the money in welfare projects.

Daihan Coal Corp. will either be merged into the Korea Mining Promotion Corp. or Kepco in 1995 as it was made unnecessary with dropping coal demand.

The Korea General Chemical Corp., whose two affiliates will be privatized, will be dissolved while roles of the Korea National Housing Corp., Korea Land Development Corp., Korea Water Resources Corp., Korea Trade Promotion Corp., and Agricultural and Fisheries Marketing Corp. will be limited or changed.

Of 102 companies financed by state-invested corporations, a total of 50 that have reached their initial goal of set-up, now have little relation with the invested company, whose industry will be better managed privately or is unsuitable for public corporation, who were acquired by state-run enterprises because of bad business but can now stand on their own feet, and who suffer chronic deficits, will be out for sales.

Seven companies, including Ginseng Export Corp., will be merged into a certain corporation.

Management of the candidates for privatization will be handed over to the private and the companies will be privatized by sales inside and outside the stock market and public bidding.

The money from their sales, which is expected to reach around 7 trillion won, will be used in infrastructure projects and facility investment.

KTA Says Economic Growth Lowest of NIC's

*SK2912084293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0750 GMT
29 Dec 93*

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 29 (YONHAP)—South Korea recorded the lowest economic growth rate of East Asia's four newly industrialized countries [NIC's] this year, the Korea Traders Association (KTA) said Wednesday. Korea's growth rate of 4.8 percent puts it behind Singapore (8.7 percent), Taiwan (6.1 percent) and Hong Kong (5.2 percent), KTA said in a report. Projected expansion of 6.8 percent next years still lags behind Singapore (8 percent) but is ahead of Taiwan (6.5 percent) and Hong Kong (5.1 percent). The Chinese economy grew 12.5 percent this year and will slow down to 10 percent next year, the KTA said.

Current Account Surplus Expected for 1993

*SK3012014593 Seoul YONHAP in English 0058 GMT
30 Dec 93*

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 30 (YONHAP)—South Korea is certain to post a modest current account surplus this year after three years in the red, the Bank of Korea [BOK] said Thursday.

A surplus of 243.7 million U.S. dollars is estimated despite a growing invisible trade deficit thanks to brisk exports, which will produced a trade surplus of more than 400 million dollars, the central bank said.

The January-November current account deficit was 131.2 million dollars, off 4,568.1 million dollars from 4,699.3 million dollars in the same period last year.

The current account was in the red throughout the first half of the year except for May, but has stayed in the black since July, a BOK official said, predicting another surplus this month.

"We may see a 200 million-dollar current account surplus this year for the first surplus in four years," he said.

It was too soon to conclude that Korea had returned to the surplus days of the late 1980s because of the 3-D (dirty, difficult, dangerous) industry as the surplus is relatively small in view of this year's trade of more than 160 billion dollars and low import demand due to the recession, he said.

Korea posted annual current account surpluses in 1986-1989, but was saddled with deficits of 2,179.4 million dollars in 1990, 8,727.7 million dollars in 1991 and 4,528.5 million dollars last year.

November saw a surplus as exports grew 18.3 percent to 7,268.9 million dollars from 6,143.4 million dollars a year earlier while imports rose 14.3 percent to 6,856.3 million dollars from 5,999.2 million dollars, drawing a trade surplus of 412.6 million dollars.

In contrast, the invisible trade deficit soared to 227.6 million dollars last month from October's 90.5 million dollars and the transfer account surplus dropped from 101.4 million dollars to 58.7 million dollars.

The invisible trade deficit worsened because the travel account slid from a 2.6 million-dollar surplus in October to a deficit of 33.5 million dollars the following month.

Other service areas sank to a deficit of 16.4 million dollars from a surplus of 48.4 million dollars due to higher royalties and technology service payments and increased expenses for overseas branches. The investment yield deficit grew as a result of higher interest rates.

Long- and short-term capital account surpluses of 467.6 million dollars and 359.7 million dollars, respectively, were due to 1,080 million dollars of foreign stock fund inflow and to an increase in short-term borrowed capital of developing institutions so that the net capital inflow was 827.3 million dollars.

With the current and capital accounts both improved, foreign exchange holdings surged 1.47 billion dollars to 21.46 billion dollars in November from a month earlier.

Consumer Prices Up; Price Control 'Challenge'

SK2912020293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0128 GMT
29 Dec 93

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 29 (YONHAP)—Consumer prices rose 5.8 percent this year, although the government had hoped to peg inflation between 4 percent and 5 percent

by sitting on manufactured goods prices and public utility rates, and by taking back pay rises of public servants.

Price control will be the biggest challenge for the president's new team of economic policymakers next year with a series of hikes in public utility rates and manufactured goods prices.

Consumer prices rose 1.3 percentage points over 1992's 4.5 percent and producer prices rose 2 percent, up 0.4 percentage points from last year, according to the National Statistical Office and the Bank of Korea on Wednesday.

Prices of fresh foods such as vegetables and fruit soared 20.7 percent from last year-end, up 29 percentage points from a drop of 8.3 percent.

Farm products cost 13.3 percent more due to the unseasonably cool summer and the bad fruit harvest in this off year.

Due to lack of beef demand, livestock prices dropped 2 percent, but fish prices soared 12.6 percent following quota shortages.

Among manufactured goods, prices of processed foods like milk and rice cake rose and the value of plywood and gold rings climbed 3.8 percent due to international price rises.

Public utility rates rose 6.9 percent as the result of rises in some transportation fares and school fees.

In the service sector, food services remained the same while fees for private educational institutes soared and fees for public baths went up 6.2 percent, though stable compared with last year.

Leases and monthly rents rose 4.7 percent, the lowest growth since 1987 due to stabilized real estate prices.

South Kyongsang Province showed the lowest 4.7-percent rise, while Taejon saw the highest 8-percent due to the Expo.

Despite price hikes in farm, livestock and fisheries products, producer prices rose just 2 percent due to stabilized manufactured goods.

Farm goods and fisheries like apples, onions and crabs cost 10.8 percent more due to the bad harvest following the cool summer and bad fruit crop. Prices of manufactured goods rose 0.8 percent.

Public utility rates were up 3.2 percent, others up 5.3 percent, while oil prices dropped 1.1 percent.

Japanese Consumer Electronics Imports Increase

SK2912010393 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in
English 29 Dec 93 p 8

[Text] Imports of Japanese-made consumer electronics products are rising fast.

Japanese products accounted for 56.7 percent of total home electronics imports out of \$779 million marked during the January-November period of this year, according to statistics compiled by Korean producers.

Consumer electronics imports from Japan are expected to grow sharply in the years to come as Korea is set to gradually lift restrictions imposed on imports of Japanese goods.

Under the so-called import source diversification system, the government has, since 1987, controlled imports from Japan of goods including cars and electronic devices.

This formula, however, goes against the Uruguay Round agreement which calls for each government to abolish barriers to trade.

Currently, a total of 258 items are controlled under this system. The government intends to reduce this figure by 10 percent a year for the next five years. For the remainder, it has yet to decide on whether to lift restrictions gradually or all at once.

The annual growth rates of Japanese home electronics imports had been below 1 percent during the 1990-1992 period. But in the second half of this year, imports rose sharply, reflecting a spending spree among cash-laden well-to-do people in the wake of the implementation in August of the real-name financial transaction system.

Korean electronics makers worry that next year Japan might strongly demand that Korea abolish the restrictions on imports from Japan.

"If and when the government allows imports from Japan of such high value-added goods as camcorders and videocassette recorders (VCRs), Korean consumers are certain to prefer the imported goods to domestically produced ones," said an industry expert.

Korean producers of camcorders and four-head VCRs buy over 60 percent of the necessary parts from Japan, according to the expert.

The Korean producers of camcorders and four-head VCRs buy over 60 percent of the necessary parts from Japan, according to the expert.

The Korean consumer electronics manufacturers are also concerned about the renewed move by large Japanese distributors to advance into Korea. These distributors have thus far been blocked by the limits imposed by the Korean Government on the size of sales outlets of foreign firms.

According to industry sources, a couple of big Japanese consumer electronics distributors have recently surveyed the Korean market and discussed possible cooperation with Korean partners.

Foreigners Invest \$10 Billion in Stock Market

SK2912063193 Seoul YONHAP in English 0620 GMT 29 Dec 93

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 29 (YONHAP)—Foreigners have invested more than 10 billion U.S. dollars in the stock market since it was opened, the Securities Supervisory Board said Wednesday.

From Jan. 1 to Dec. 27, foreigners brought 7.5 billion dollars into the country, or nearly 2.7 times the 2.73 billion dollars of all last year.

Total inflow for the two years is 10.243 billion dollars and outflow is 2.57 billion dollars, including 1.91 billion dollars this year.

This means a net influx of 7.66 billion dollars.

Foreigners bought 381.3 million shares for 6.41 trillion won this year.

During the two years, they purchased 510.5 million shares and sold 178 million shares, so they now hold 332.4 million shares.

Foreigners can buy 10 percent of shares in a listed company, and as of Dec. 27 had reached the limit in 168 companies while 163 were between 9 percent and 10 percent.

Cambodia

Attack on Anlong Veng; Tie Banh to Laos

BK3012100293 Hong Kong AFP in English 0954 GMT 30 Dec 94

[Text] Phnom Penh, Dec 30 (AFP)—Government forces have attacked Khmer Rouge headquarters in Anlong Veng, in Cambodia's northern province of Siem Reap, a government official said Thursday.

The official was unable to give any further immediate details about the attack, which followed the launch of a major offensive in the region.

Meanwhile co-defence ministers Tie Banh and Tea Chamrat left in a government plane from Phnom Penh to seek "military assistance," a military official said.

They were believed to be heading for Vientiane to seek the co-operation of the Lao government as the Khmer Rouge were reported to have set up fall back positions nearer the Lao border.

A high-ranking government official refused to confirm this but said the ministers' trip "could be connected" to the assault on Anlong Veng, the Khmer Rouge headquarters for guerrilla operations in north and central Cambodia.

Radio Urges Stronger Policy Against Khmer Rouge

BK3012113193 Phnom Penh National Voice of Cambodia Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 29 Dec 93

[Political commentary: "Do Not Trade in Wet Hide"]

[Text] Even kids know that the sum of two and two is four. But for the Khmer Rouge, two plus two can make five or six and sometimes even 40!

The Khmer Rouge have created endless problems lately with their belief that a game lost should be vindicated by a match won. The more willing the Royal Government of Cambodia is to give concessions, the more aggressive the Khmer Rouge seem to become.

Presently, the world appears extremely disgusted with the Khmer Rouge rebels when they hear that there are talks and discussions at whatever level. If we look at the proposals of the Khmer Rouge, we will see that they are all geared to force the royal government into accepting them by giving them the roles they want. Because the royal government wishes for a speedy national reconciliation and accord so that the people will not have to suffer any longer, it has appealed to the Khmer Rouge to honor a cease-fire, agree to hand over the Pailin area under their control, and integrate their armed forces into the Khmer Royal Armed Forces. The royal government is also willing to give Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan the role of government advisor. This already is a

very high price, considering that several other political parties which took part in the elections have respected the outcome of the elections and continued to contribute to national reconstruction as best they can yet have not received anything. If the royal government keeps grovelling before and abiding to the unreasonable ambitions of the Khmer Rouge, the other parties might accuse it of being unfair.

In order to remain fair and maintain a balanced stance toward other parties and add up to the impetus of national reconstruction for peace, national unity, and progress, we should not be too soft on or too pliable toward the Khmer Rouge.

The Khmer Rouge are like the monkey in the fable. They have laid the blame on the former State of Cambodia faction, accusing it of being responsible for the chaos and confusion that they have created, while claiming to be beyond any reproach. Of that, we need not ask the adults. Any primary school student can tell us that it is these Khmer Rouge who massacred the people; it is these Khmer Rouge who have kindled the flames of war up to the present; and it is the Khmer Rouge who have never wished to see peace realized. No one is worse than a fool who believes himself to be clever. Yet a fool is better than a wise man who acts foolishly. If the Khmer Rouge want to join the national mainstream, they should make it clear that they are coming in. If they want to remain outside, they must be specific about that. Do not trade in wet hide. You just cannot make any profit.

Chea Sim, Heng Samrin Back From Sihanouk Visit

BK3012054993 Phnom Penh National Voice of Cambodia Radio Network in Cambodian 0430 GMT 30 Dec 93

[Excerpt] A top-level delegation of the National Assembly headed by Samdech Chea Sim, acting head of state and chairman of the National Assembly, arrived at Pochentong Airport at 0945 on 30 December by Dragon Air Airbus R-320. Samdech Chea Sim was accompanied by His Excellency [H.E.] Heng Samrin, high adviser of His Majesty King Norodom Sihanouk Varaman; H.E. Kong Sam-ol, deputy prime minister in charge of the royal palace and minister of agriculture, forestry, wildlife, and fisheries; and H.E. Tol Loah, secretary general of the National Assembly. [passage omitted]

Philippines

American Abducted in Davao by 'Armed Men'

BK2912101293 Quezon City GMA-7 Radio-Television Arts Network in Tagalog 0930 GMT 29 Dec 93

[Text] An American from Houston, Texas was kidnapped last night on Quimpo Boulevard in Davao City. Scott Nelson was with his girlfriend when he was abducted by armed men. Nelson was on his way to a

Christmas party in Talisay. There is no report of ransom demanded by the kidnappers.

MNLF May Drop Secession Bid for Wider Autonomy

BK3012013593 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 28 Dec 93 pp 1, 6

[By Vic P. Arevalo]

[Text] Zamboanga City—Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) Chairman Nur Misuari hinted the other day that the rebel MNLF may give up its long-standing cause for secession even as he stood firm on his demand for an expanded coverage of the Autonomous Region for Muslim Mindanao.

In his message at the inaugural meeting of the mix committee on Government of the Republic of the Philippines (GRP) Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) Peace Talks in Jolo, Sulu, Misuari said that the MNLF may give up the cause for secession but in its place asked that the areas of autonomy in Mindanao be expanded.

The GRP-MNLF Mixed Committee formed a subcommittee and assigned it to draw up guidelines on economic, security, education and other details up for negotiations between both panels when formal talks resume in February 1994. The February talks will be "more crucial," observers here said.

The Mixed Committee conference, which was held at the provincial capitol in Jolo town proper, adjourned last Wednesday for a five-day Christmas break. The committee conference was to resume yesterday, this time in Timbangan, Indanan the sub-headquarters of the MNLF.

GRP Panel Chairman Manuel Yan likened the mixed committee meeting to an auspicious homecoming for the MNLF leader who went on exile in the Middle East for six years.

"The journey to peace that began a year ago in a foreign land has finally reached our shores," said former Ambassador Manuel Yan who personally welcomed Misuari in Jolo.

The Jolo committee conference was witnessed by the Ministerial Committee of the Organization of Islamic Conference (OIC) led by its Secretary-General Hamid al-Gabid.

The OIC officials were informed by the provincial leaders of Sulu led by Governor Habib Tupay Loong that not all the 13 provinces in Mindanao are predominantly inhabited by Muslims.

The Muslim population is concentrated in Sulu, Tawi-Tawi, Basilan, Maguindanao, Lanao del Sur and Marawi City.

Ramos Signs 1994 Budget, Decries Cuts

BK3012064593 Quezon City PTV-4 Television Network in Tagalog 0500 GMT 30 Dec 93

[Text] President Fidel Ramos today signed the National Appropriations Act of 1994, allocating a budget of P330.2 billion [Philippine pesos]. Ramos vetoed Congress' action on some provisions of the national budget, which includes a provision on foreign debt repayment. On the whole, P31.8 billion was slashed by Congress from the original budget submitted by Malacanang.

Ramos explained that he used his veto powers on six items in the budget bill because these items will gravely affect major government programs for the coming year. Among the government agencies that suffered budget cuts were the Department of Public Works and Highways; Department of Health; Department of Education, Culture and Sports; Department of Interior and Local Government; Department of Trade and Industry; and, the Department of Transportation and Communication.

The national budget allocated funds to increase the salaries of government workers.

[Begin Ramos recording in progress, in English] ...the implementation of major government programs and curtail effective delivery of essential public services. For example, funds for education, water supply, the rebel returnee program, and export promotion are being cut precisely at this critical juncture from our expected economic take off. At this time when the need of the hour is cohesion, continuity, and consistency in program, planning, and implementation, any major departure from the original 1994 socioeconomic thrusts will only derail our development efforts. With greatly reduced resources in several key areas, we cannot possibly maintain the gains we painstakingly achieved in 1993, much less accelerate the momentum of our economic growth. [end recording]

De Villa To Oversee Anti-Bomber Operations

BK3012045493 Quezon City Radio Filipinas in English 0230 GMT 30 Dec 93

[Text] President Ramos has sent Defense Secretary Renato De Villa to Davao to personally supervise the operations against those responsible in the series of bombings in Mindanao. Aside from De Villa, the president also sent Malacanang [presidential office] Assistant Executive Secretary Dionisio De La Serna to coordinate with local officials. The president's move was disclosed by Press Secretary Jesus Sison.

Meantime, the Philippine National Police [PNP] has expressed belief that the group behind the 1981 Easter Sunday bombing of the San Pedro Cathedral is the same group responsible for last Sunday's attack. Chief Humberto Rodriguez of the PNP notes the similarities in the bombings.

Thailand**Chawalit To Quit Labor Post, Names Police Chief**

*BK3012023393 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
30 Dec 93 p 2*

[Text] Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut will step down as minister of labour and social welfare at a New Aspiration Party [NAP] meeting on January 5.

Announcing his intention to step down at a meeting with senior reporters yesterday, the Interior Minister also said he would seek party approval for his nomination of Phaithun Kaeothong as new minister of labour and social welfare.

Mr Phaithun is currently deputy minister. The other deputy minister is Soemsak Karun, who is also a member of the NAP.

Gen Chawalit said he would inform Prime Minister Chuan Likphai of Mr Phaithun's nomination the following day, so that the nomination could be forwarded to His Majesty the King for royal appointment.

The minister also said he would nominate Prathin Santipraphop as new police chief, succeeding Sawat Amon-wiat, to the Police Commission on January 5.

Pol Gen [Police General] Prathin, acting police chief, has been tipped for the top police post for some time, but his official appointment has been delayed due to the late issuance of a royal command to remove Pol Gen Sawat from the position.

Pol Gen Sawat was removed as police chief on December 12 and was appointed an inspector-general attached to the Interior Ministry.

The Police Service Commission has scheduled a meeting for today, during which Gen Chawalit is expected to propose the nomination of Pol Gen Prathin to the top post of the national police force.

Prime Minister Chuan said he no longer saw the question of the new police chief as a problem as it would soon be settled in the Police Service Commission.

He said he personally thought that the new police chief should be appointed as soon as possible.

Gen Chawalit further said he expected the Government's political stability to be enhanced and the economic situation to improve in the coming year which would also see less labour disputes.

The Opposition, he added, would not pose a serious threat to the administration.

The minister said he would introduce bills to update several draconian and obsolete laws which obstruct the efficient performance of duty.

Former General Manun Acquitted in Murder Plot

*BK3012103893 Bangkok Cho So 100 Radio in Thai
1000 GMT 30 Dec 93*

[Text] The Criminal Court has acquitted Manun Rupkhachon, a former Army major general and graduate of Phrachunlachomklao Military Academy's Class 7, in connection with a plot to murder important national figures. After the court's verdict was read, Manun was congratulated by his supporters and friends, including Major General Sanan Khachonprasat, secretary general of the Democrat Party, and Major General Sombat Rotphothong, deputy defense minister.

Manun was cleared of the allegation because there was no evidence to incriminate him. Moreover, the testimony given to the court by Colonel Bunsak Phocharoen, an important state witness and Manun's classmate, contradicted statements he made during the investigation.

Manun later told reporters that he was very happy with the court's ruling. Asked if he would enter politics, he said he needed time to make a decision.

[Hong Kong AFP in English at 1039 GMT on 30 December in a similar report adds: "One of the Thai army's 'Young Turks', who twice tried to overthrow the government in the 1980s, was acquitted Thursday of involvement in a shadowy assassination plot dating back to 1982. Manun Rupkhachon, 58, was cleared for lack of sufficient evidence of charges he had plotted the murder of Queen Sirikit, Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon and Army chief Athit Kamlang-ek, a court official said. The verdict is expected to pave the way for the charismatic Manun to enter politics, possibly as a candidate for parliament of Prime Minister Chuan Likphai's Democrat Party."]

Vietnam**Party Official on Diplomacy, Human Rights**

*BK3012056793 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English
1000 GMT 29 Dec 93*

[Text] The chief of the External Relations Committee and secretary of the party Central Committee, Mr. Hong Ha, has granted an interview to Radio Voice of Vietnam. Following are excerpts from the interview:

Mr. Hong Ha said: In 1993, Vietnam has actively (?restored) its international activities in different fields and regions and obtained many important results. Vietnam has strengthened and improved its relations with neighboring and ASEAN countries, opening up a new page in its relations with industrialized countries and new industrialized countries in Western Europe, Northeastern Asia, and South Pacific. It continued to effectively cooperate with the United States to solve the humanitarian issues of both sides, contributing to normalizing Vietnam-U.S. relations, consolidating and

renewing its traditional relations with the Commonwealth of Independence States and Eastern Europe.

Vietnam has established relations with countries in northern Africa, western Asia, the Middle East, and South America. In 1993, Vietnam established diplomatic relations with seven countries in South Pacific, Latin America, and Western Asia, raising the number of countries having diplomatic relations with Vietnam to 144.

The relations between Vietnam and international financial and monetary institutions have been normalized and foreign investment in Vietnam is on the rise.

In 1993, the Communist Party of Vietnam has established relations with 175 political parties, organizations, and movements in the world, including a number of ruling parties in developed countries.

The achievements obtained in external activities in 1993 have discouraged the sanction against Vietnam and improved its position and prestige in the world.

About relations between Vietnam and Southeast Asian countries, Mr. Hong Ha said: 1993 has seen important steps of development. Vietnamese senior leaders have planned visits to some ASEAN countries in 1994. Vietnam continues to broaden bilateral relations with each ASEAN member countries. In 1994, Vietnam will step by step participate in cooperation programs of ASEAN at appropriate time. Vietnam wishes to develop its relations with Myanmar [Burma].

Mr. Hong Ha said that in 1993, the relations between Vietnam and the Commonwealth of Independence States and Eastern European countries have seen a new step of development. Vietnam has signed cooperation agreements in many fields and initially settled pending problems in bilateral relations with those countries such as death, labor cooperation, training, and regulations on movement. Vietnam and Russia have held a meeting of inter-governmental committee on economic cooperation and signed four agreements on aviation cooperation, maritime, avoidance of double taxation, and on Russia's inheritance of the agreement on oil and gas exploitation signed by the former Soviet Union with Vietnam. Vietnam [words indistinct] to the preservation and promotion of friendship and multicooperation with the Commonwealth of Independence States and East European countries.

Concerning the human rights issue, Mr. Hong Ha said: The human rights in this nation is the cause of that nation. [sentence as heard] First of all, that nation has the responsibility to ensure human rights in the country. Human rights cannot be separated from peace, independence, democracy, and development. The right to development is one of the fundamental human rights. He also stressed on the necessity to reject all schemes using human rights to interfere in internal affairs of other countries and as conditions for international cooperation and socioeconomic assistance.

Radio Reviews 1993 Import-Export Activities

BK3012055593 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English
1000 GMT 29 Dec 93

[Text] Nineteen ninety-three has seen encouraging development in Vietnam's import-export activities. Yearly export turnover is estimated at \$3 billion, an increase of 20 percent. A number of articles have increased over the last year, including coffee, tea, aquatic products, garments, and so on.

Aquatic products made a large proportion in Vietnam's export turnover. In 1993, this branch obtained a total output of more than 1.4 million tons, two-thirds of which were for export which obtained a turnover of \$315 million. Vietnamese frozen seafood, including prawns, crabs, and cuttlefish have been much sought after in the world market.

Rice export is also worth mentioning. Despite many difficulties in the rice market, in the whole 1993, Vietnam could still export 1.8 million tons. From rice shortage, Vietnam has become the first largest rice exporter in the world. The quality of Vietnamese rice has been improving and accepted in the world market. However, due to the lack of complete and timely market information, the quantities of rice exported by Vietnam this year is a little lower than last year.

Textile and garment exported by Vietnam to the EC market took the lead of other export articles. Under the agreement, Vietnam is entitled to export to EC countries 151 articles. Up to now, 93 enterprises have produced goods for EC with 53 articles. Vietnamese jackets and shirts have been highly appreciated, and it is estimated that these articles will be valued at \$350 million.

Evaluating these activities, the minister of light industry, Mr. Dang Vu Chu said:

[Begin recording in Vietnamese fading into English translation] This is the first time Vietnam exported garments to EC market. So, this success will open up large prospects in the future. In order to meeting the growing needs of the people in export, generate more jobs for the working people, and further contribute the state budget, the consumer goods service that cover of the domestic market—was broadening its international market, making a breakthrough in the market of each country, each region, and prepare to join international and regional associations. [end recording]

Besides it is required to concentrate its investments in modern technology, develop the labor market, and restructure industry and agriculture in the orientation of industrialization. Crude oil plays a rather important role in Vietnamese export activities. By early December 1993, the oil and gas import-export corporation, PETECHIM, had exported the 20 millionth ton of oil. Over the last five years, PETECHIM has steadily delivered 300 consignments off shore Vietnam, fulfilling in time all orders with foreign partners. PETECHIM is expected to export more than 6 million tons of crude oil

by the end of 1993. Its export turnover accounts for 30 percent of the export turnover by the Ministry of Trade.

In addition, Vietnam has exported tea, coffee, rubber, fresh vegetables, and fruits, canned fruits, leather, and shoes. In this crop, Vietnam obtained more than 130,000 tons of coffee, an increase of 25 percent against last year and exported more than 128,000 tons of coffee beans valued at more than \$104 million. Vietnam has become one of large coffee producing country in Asia and the Pacific after Indonesia and India. It is expected to increase its coffee output by 10,000 tons next year. Vietnam has also exported 8,000 tons of tea, an increase of 30 percent over last year, 50,000 tons of rubber and others.

Vietnam's imported goods in 1993 was estimated at \$3.1 billion, obtaining its yearly plan. The quantities of imported articles met the needs for production and social consumption.

The quantities of imported iron, steel, petrol, etc...surpassed yearly plans, a great increase against last year.

Noteworthy was that last year, in addition to the EC, Vietnam has broadened its market to the Middle East, initially breaking through the traditional market in the CIS [Commonwealth of Independence States], seeking opportunities to approach and preparing to enter North America when it can. However, Vietnam still meets with difficulties in finding market and steady trade partners.

National Assembly Issues Communiqué No. 14

BK2912151993 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 29 Dec 93

[Communiqué No. 14 issued by the Ninth National Assembly's Fourth Session in Hanoi on 29 December]

[Excerpt] On 29 December, the National Assembly held a plenary meeting at Ba Dinh Conference Hall under the direction of National Assembly Vice Chairman Phung Van Tuu to pass a bill on business bankruptcy.

The National Assembly heard Minister Do Quoc Sam, chairman of the State Planning Commission, deliver a report on behalf of the Law Drafting Committee that compiled the views of deputies on the contents of the bill on business bankruptcy. Afterward, Ly Tai Luan, vice chairman of the National Assembly's Committee for Economy and Budget, read the entire revised bill on business bankruptcy on behalf of the Investigation Subcommittee of the National Assembly Secretariat and the Law Drafting Committee. [passage omitted]

Assembly Debates Draft Law on Bankruptcy

BK2912144393 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 29 Dec 93

[Passages in boldface recorded]

[Summary] "Dear friends: Today, 29 December, the National Assembly held a plenary meeting at Ba Dinh Conference Hall in Hanoi to allow deputies to contribute more ideas on various provisions of the draft Law on Business Bankruptcy before voting to approve it.

"At the morning session, Comrade Do Quoc Sam, minister and chairman of the State Planning Commission, delivered a report on behalf of the Law Drafting Committee that compiled the views of deputies on the contents of the draft Law on Business Bankruptcy.

"Afterward, Comrade Ly Tai Luan read the draft Law on Business Bankruptcy on behalf of the National Assembly Secretariat. The draft law has been revised on the basis of views collected during group discussions last week."

Before the revisions were made, the National Assembly deputies conducted an animated debate on various articles. A total of 20 deputies expressed their views with an aim to perfect the law. Many deputies held that—as mentioned in item two of Article One—bankruptcy should not be imposed on state-run enterprises and establishments directly serving the national defense and public interest. Comrade Ha Dang, deputy from Phu Yen Province, said:

I propose that we retain item two in Article One, because these enterprises and establishments were set up to serve our national defense and the public interest. We should refrain from declaring them bankrupt.

Other deputies opposed this view, however, arguing that for the sake of equality, all enterprises should be subjected to bankruptcy if they operate at a loss. Dealing with this issue, Comrade Dong Sy Tuyen, deputy from Bac Thai Province, said:

I suggest that we delete item two in Article One to suit the spirit of the preamble, which stresses that this law is aimed at promoting the efficacy of all enterprises and that they must be treated equally under the law.

Many deputies argued that further discussions should be held to perfect this article and subsequent ones.

Due to the differences among the deputies, the National Assembly only voted to pass two articles of Chapter One this morning.

This afternoon, the National Assembly continued its work at the conference hall. The deputies discussed and contributed ideas on Chapters One, Two, and Three of the law.

Tomorrow, 30 December, the National Assembly will continue its discussions at the conference hall to contribute more ideas on the remaining chapters of the Law on Business Bankruptcy.

NHAN DAN Hails Cuban Liberation Day

*BK3012070393 Hanoi VNA in English 0647 GMT
30 Dec 93*

[All quotation marks as received]

[Text] Hanoi VNA Dec. 30—'Vietnam and Cuba have always stood side by side in their national socialist construction and defence', said the national daily NHAN DAN in an editorial today, marking the 35th liberation day of Cuba (January 1st).

The editorial continued:

'The Vietnamese people have borne in their minds Cuban people's precious and generous assistance given to the Vietnamese revolution in the spirit 'for Vietnam, we are ready to shed our blood'. The official Cuba visit by a Vietnamese party and state delegation led by Prime

Minister Vo Van Kiet last July reaffirmed the Vietnamese people's will and sentiments to maintain and foster the traditional solidarity, friendship and cooperation between Vietnam and Cuba which have been regarded as the invaluable assets of the two nations.'

The paper hailed the achievements recorded 'over the past 35 years by the Cuban people who under the leadership of the Communist Party and President Fidel Castro and with creative working spirit underwent many great challenges, particularly difficulties caused by hostile forces, in order to keep on building socialism, maintain political stability, and consolidate security and defence.'

'Cuba with world-wide support will overcome all hardships and difficulties to stand firm and go ahead for new achievements,' NHAN DAN said in conclusion.

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